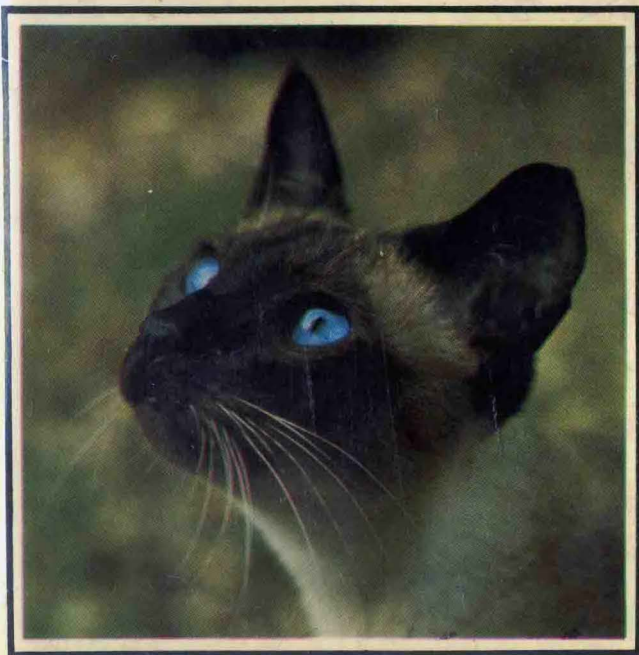


The Observer's Book of CATS

GRACE POND

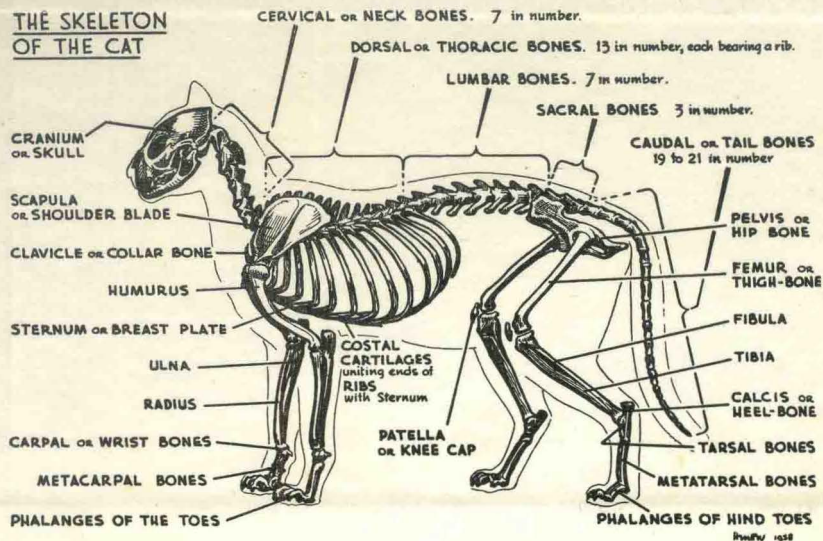


Though the history of the domestic cat goes back at least to the time of the ancient Egyptians, it is only comparatively recently that scientific breeding has been undertaken to produce the many beautiful varieties seen on the show bench today.

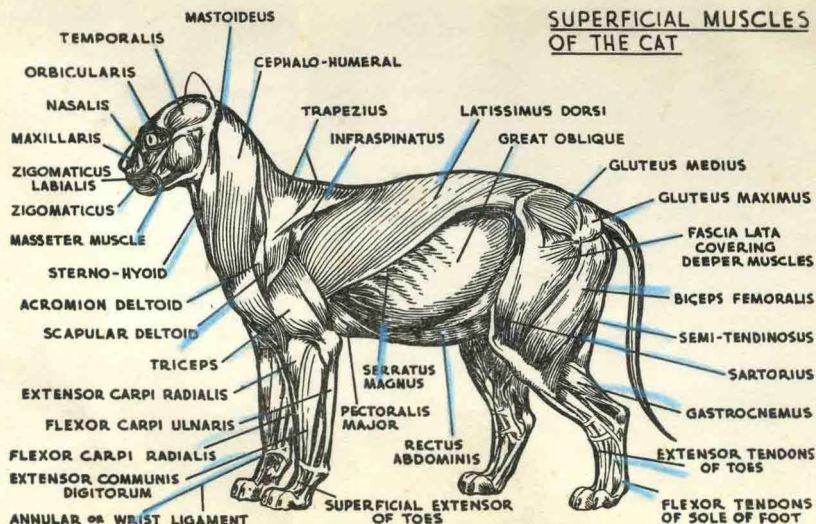
All the recognized breeds and varieties are described and illustrated in this book. Owners of the humble 'household pet' as well as of pedigree animals will find useful advice on care and breeding, and from her experience as a judge at many cat shows, the author gives valuable hints on preparing a cat for show. A list is also given of the main cat clubs and societies in Britain, the Commonwealth and the U.S.A.

JACKET ILLUSTRATION: Seal Point Siamese
(Photo: Sally Anne Thompson)

THE SKELETON OF THE CAT



SUPERFICIAL MUSCLES OF THE CAT



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The Observer's Book of

CATS

GRACE POND

DESCRIBING ALL RECOGNISED
BREEDS AND VARIETIES
WITH 32 COLOUR AND 25 BLACK
AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS AND
NUMEROUS LINE DRAWINGS

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INTRODUCTION

The domestic cat has a long history dating from the time of the ancient Egyptians when it was worshipped in the temples, through the Middle Ages with their superstitions and witchcraft, until the present day when millions of homes have their pet cats and hundreds of pedigree cats compete for thousands of pounds' worth of prizes at cat shows each year. Throughout this time the size has remained much the same, but the coat now differs greatly in colour, length, and in the absence or presence of markings. The majority of the cat population in Britain, estimated at twelve millions, is made up by the 'household pet'. These pets have coats varying in length from very short to very long, in assorted colours. Most of them are charming, but of unknown ancestry, and are therefore 'non-pedigree'. Cats whose ancestors can be traced back for several generations and whose characteristics conform to certain standards are known as 'pedigree' and may be registered with the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, which recognises over thirty varieties or breeds.

These are divided into two sections, the long-haired breeds, sometimes called Persians and once known as Angoras, and the short-haired breeds. The characteristics or 'type' required for all varieties and colours of the pedigree long-haired cats are much the same, but the short-haired varieties are again divided, into the British short-haired breeds and the Foreign short-haired breeds. Briefly, the British cat has a rounded head and straight sturdy

lines compared with the wedge-shaped head and the slim lithe appearance of the Foreign cat. As will be seen from the descriptions of the breeds, the word 'Foreign' does not necessarily mean that the breed is an imported one, but refers solely to the type.

For breeding, showing or just as pets, pedigree cats of outstanding show standard bred in Britain are eagerly sought after by breeders and cat lovers, and although there can be no comparison with the number of dogs exported, there is a steady demand for British-bred cats in all parts of the world.

The object of this book is to enable any particular breed of cat to be recognised at a glance and to help anyone desirous of acquiring a kitten to choose the special variety preferred.

Since this book was first written, I have had hundreds of enquiries regarding pedigree cats. I find a popular misconception is that a pedigree cat is an exotic creature needing special care and attention, and many write saying that they would dearly love to own one, but are afraid to take on such a responsibility.

I would emphasise here that a pedigree cat can live just as happily with the same care and feeding as a non-pedigree cat. Both equally need affection, care, grooming and a good varied diet. A long-haired cat will certainly need more time spent in grooming the fur, but fifteen minutes a day should keep him looking magnificent. Provided the pedigree kitten is healthy, full of life when purchased, is injected against Feline Infectious Enteritis, and barring accidents which may affect any cat, the life expectancy is the same. I have had Blue Persians live until 17 years old and have known Siamese the same age.

THE CAT THROUGH THE AGES

The origin of the domestic cat seems to be hidden in the mists of antiquity. Experts still differ as to its real origin, but many think that its true ancestor was the caffre cat of Egypt, which was tamed and trained by the Egyptians and used for hunting. The first definite evidence of the existence of the domestic cat, apart from the wild cat, comes from ancient Egypt over three thousand years ago, although it may have been known in the world long before this. In Egypt the cat was held in great esteem (Plate 2). It was worshipped in the temples, protected from injury, loved during life, and at death was mourned by the entire family. Both rich and poor had the bodies of their cats beautifully embalmed, sometimes in finest linen, and placed in mummy cases made of such materials as bronze and wood, often richly decorated and lined with gold leaf. The British Museum has examples of mummified cats and cases. Many mummified cats and even small kittens were sent to Bubastes to be buried near the Temple of Pasht, the goddess with a cat's head, where the sacred cats were kept.

The Egyptians realised the cat's immense value in protecting the great granaries from rats and mice. Figures of cats, made of bronze, copper, faience, gold and wood (which was quite valuable in Egypt with so little timber available) have been found showing them wearing little gold ear-rings and elaborate necklaces (Plate 2). Cat motifs were used constantly in ornamentation and decoration, and appear in wall panels and drawings. Children's

necklaces and bracelets have been discovered made of rows of tiny figures of cats, and there is a delightful small model of a cat sitting on a dais, with an inscription around it indicating that it was a birthday present to a little girl from her pet cat to wish her a happy year. Small models of cats were used on amulets and scarabs. Statuettes of Pasht, the Cat Goddess, show her carrying a small basket and a sistrum—a musical instrument, often adorned with a model of a cat's head, which was carried in processions in honour of the goddess. From the many models found the Egyptian cat seems to have been even longer and slimmer than the Siamese of today. Many are depicted with markings something like those of the tabby. Even in those days there appear to have been two distinct types—the long-eared and sharp-nosed, and the short-eared and blunt-nosed, forerunner of the type found in the long-haired cats nowadays.

In India cats were mentioned in Sanskrit writings over two thousand years ago, while in China about 500 B.C., Confucius is known to have had a favourite cat. Remains of cats have been found in Etruria and it is thought that the first cats to be kept as pets in Europe may have come from there. The Scandinavian Goddess Freya is depicted in a chariot drawn by two cats. About 600 A.D., Mahommed is said to have preached with a cat in his arms, while about the same time Japan has tales of cats being kept in the temples to guard the sacred manuscripts.

It is commonly surmised that the Romans brought the first domestic cats to Britain, and bones have been found in the ruins of some Roman villas. The wild cat was hunted, but the very rare domestic cat was much prized; in 948 A.D., according to laws made by Prince Howel the Good, a kitten cost a penny before its eyes were opened and after

it had caught a mouse it was worth two pence, which was a lot of money in those days. Anyone who stole or killed a cat from the prince's granary was fined a sheep and a lamb, or as much wheat as would cover the dead animal when held up by its tail with the nose touching the ground. In Saxony, Henry the Fowler imposed a fine of 60 bushels of corn for the wilful murder of an adult mouser.

With the advent of the Middle Ages, in England and in many other parts of the world, the once-reverenced and highly prized cat was becoming an animal to look on with fear and dread. It became the victim of sacrifice and ceremonies connected with Black Magic. Witches were supposed to be able to turn themselves into cats, to ride on cats, and were pictured with cats riding on their broomsticks. Many innocent women were burned to death with their harmless pets. Black cats in particular were picked out for persecution as being the familiar of the Devil and many thousands of cats were wilfully destroyed. In France cats were publicly burned as sacrifices until the practice was forbidden by law by Louis XIII.

Gradually throughout Europe the witch-hunts died down and the cat was allowed once more to sit by the fire and to go about its true pursuit of killing rats and mice. Many famous people, such as Dr. Johnson and Victor Hugo, were devoted to their cats, although Napoleon is supposed to have detested them. By the Victorian period the



Cat illustration by Louis Wain

cat was again coming into its own, and most households had their pet cats. Lewis Carroll wrote *Alice in Wonderland* with its Cheshire cat. There was a boom in cat pictures, cards and calendars, and Louis Wain had a great following with his cat sketches for children's books. Interest in the cat as an individual began to increase and the first Cat Show was held at the Crystal Palace in 1871; this became an annual event. People began to think about cat breeding; breeders experimented in producing different varieties and the first pedigrees were written. More and lovelier cats were produced. The cats' meat man became a well-known character, with stalls in most market places where a half-pennyworth of cats' meat was sold on skewers. The two wars with the consequent food shortages had severe effects on cat breeding, but today the cat is more popular than ever.

Today the cat is very much in the public eye. Famous authors and film stars are photographed with their cats, and old-age pensioners will go without food themselves to buy the best possible for their pets. In fact, if an ancient Egyptian were to visit Britain now he would feel quite at home and suppose that we are a nation of cat worshippers. With plays written about cats; with their appearance in all kinds of advertisements, in cartoons and films and on television; with factories turning out millions of tins of food, baskets, collars, leads, brushes, combs, blankets, toys and medicines all for cats; with pottery and china models; with the many books about cats; and with the silver cups and trophies given for cats at shows, future generations too may well have reason to think that the cat is held in the same reverence by us as by the Egyptians.

THE CAT FAMILY

'Cat' is the general name given to all members of the feline or Felidae family. It may seem strange to some that the homely creature sitting so peacefully by the fire belongs to the same family as the lion, tiger, puma, leopard, lynx, ocelot, and the smaller species more closely allied to the domestic cat. They are carnivores or flesh eaters, animals which stalk and devour living prey, and they vary greatly in size from the lion, who may measure as much as 10 feet from head to tail, to the little spotted cat of India, sometimes smaller than the average domestic cat.

Felines have many common characteristics: the shortness of the muzzles, the supple movements of the forepaws and the strong curved and retractable claws. They have long lithe bodies combining strength and agility. They are digitigrade, that is, they walk on their toes, which makes them light of foot, stealthy and silent of approach in stalking prey. The skulls of the various species of the true cat are similar and uniform in shape. Their tongues are covered with small, rasp-like surfaces called papillae, and are used for licking flesh from bones and cleaning the coat. In adult animals the teeth number thirty, and are adapted for holding prey and cutting up flesh with a scissor-like action, but they are not suitable for breaking and cracking bones. The whiskers are long bristle-like hairs, connected with nerves, which act as very sensitive organs of perception. The hearing is acute. The eyes are large and full, with pupils that can expand

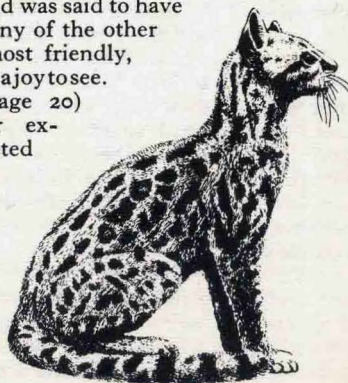
or contract to mere slits according to the density of the light. Cats cannot see in total darkness, but their eyes are responsive to the smallest gleams of light. The tails are usually long and round, and can be used most expressively in portraying the emotions, particularly when the cat is excited or chasing prey.

The coat colourings of the majority of the members of the cat tribe take the form of darker spots or stripes on a lighter ground, which may vary from greyish and tawny shades to yellow or orange. The spots may be simple, or in the shape of rings enclosing an area of a darker tint than that of the general ground colour. An excellent example of this is seen in the margay, one of the smaller members of the family found in the South American forests, which has a coat of beautifully soft fur of tawny shades, with varying sized spots.

Many years ago one appeared on the show bench in North America and was said to have been as tame as any of the other exhibits, being most friendly, easy to handle, and a joy to see.

The ocelot (page 20) provides another example of the spotted

coats of many of the feline family. The coat is mainly tawny yellow, with black spots, which also appear on the head. The tail is ringed. The size varies from 3 to



Margay

4 feet in length. It lives in the forests in South America and the extreme southern part of North America, is an expert climber, living on birds and small mammals found in the trees, and is known to hunt like a fox, even breaking into chicken runs. Although reputed to be very fierce in its natural element, it can be easily tamed and may become very friendly and playful. Specimens have appeared at cat shows both in North America and Europe.

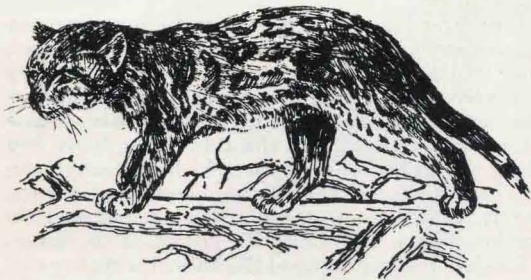
From the spotted coats there is a gradual change to the faint stripes and horizontal bars of the caffre or Egyptian cat (page 20), believed by some scientists to be the forerunner of the domestic cat in Europe. It is about the size of a large domestic cat, of yellowish colour, toning to grey, darker on the back, with faint stripes on the body and dark horizontal bands on the legs, and with a long ringed tail, tipped with black. It is found throughout Africa, and also in parts of south-western Asia. Apparently it was once known in south-eastern Europe, and its fossilised remains have been found in caverns on the Rock of Gibraltar. It will breed freely with the domestic cat.

The tiger has deep stripes, but the lion gives the impression of having a completely tawny-coloured coat, though faint spots may often be seen, especially in the female, while the young usually show considerable spotting when first born and also have transverse dark stripes down the side of the body and along the middle of the back, which gradually fade.

The lion, one of the largest members of the cat family, differs from others in having long hair on the head, neck and shoulders, known as the mane. This does not appear until the animal is three years old and takes several years to reach its full growth. Another peculiarity is the tufted tip to the tail.



Caffre or Egyptian Cat



Ocelot

The female does not have these distinguishing features, the head being covered with the same tawny short close fur as the rest of the body.

The felines are invariably lone hunters, stalking with great caution and stealth, finally catching their prey by a sudden leap, so that the coat colourings and markings play their part as camouflage while the hunt is on.

Among the smaller animals of the cat family is a beautifully-coloured species, comparatively rare, found in Tibet, Siberia, and Mongolia, known as the manul cat, or Pallas's cat (Plate 3), after the man who first described it. He regarded it as the forerunner of the domesticated long-haired breeds, but this view is not commonly held today, there not being sufficient evidence to support it. The animal is about the size of an ordinary domestic cat, with very long soft thick fur, the colouring varying from a silvery grey to a buff yellow, darker on the back and chest, with light underparts. The short club-like thick bushy tail is ringed, and similar markings appear on the loins, while the cheeks have transverse streaks. Some of the ends of the longer hairs on the back are white with black tips, giving the whole coat a silvery 'wash' effect. The head is very broad and the eyes are directed forward more than in the other species. It has a fierce disposition.

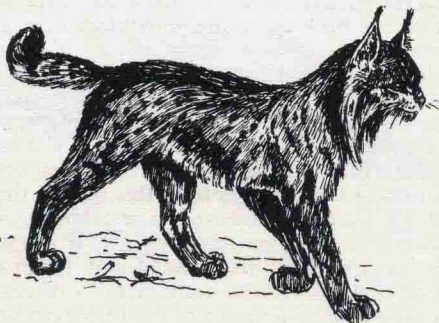
The Indian desert cat is of particular interest in that it is known to interbreed with the local domestic cats, many of which carry similar markings, and it is thought possible that it is from this species that the original Indian domestic cat first originated. About the size of an average domestic cat, it has a pale sandy coloured coat, ornamented with longitudinal lines of spots along the body, a form of marking practically unknown in any of the European breeds, but which proves an excellent form of camouflage



Jungle Cat

in the deserts and sandy regions it frequents. The tail is thin and tapering, being about the same length as the head and body, barred at the base, then ringed, while the tip is black.

The jungle cat found in India seems to connect the more typical cats with the lynxes. It is slightly larger than the average domestic cat. The eyes have



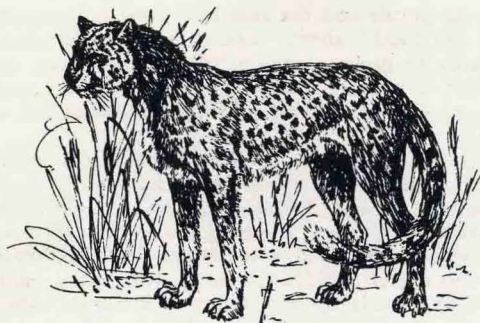
Pardine Lynx

circular pupils and the ears have long hairs on the tips. The tail is short. The body colour is yellowish-grey to greying-brown, with darker bars, and the tail is ringed, with a black tip. It is a great hunter, chiefly nocturnal, attacking game of all kinds.

The lynx is found in many parts of the world, including North America, Asia, parts of Europe, Scandinavia, and Russia. Remains have been discovered in caves in England and on the continent. There are many colour variations, from yellowish grey to a rich reddish yellow, with dark spots, while in Canada there is one that is almost white. The sharply-pointed ears are decorated with tufts of hair at the tips, while the tail is very short. They are all agile climbers, living in forests and mountainous areas. They are extremely savage, and will often kill for the sheer joy of it. When captured young, they are tameable and become very playful.

The cheetah or hunting leopard (page 24) is distinguished from the other members of the cat family by the slenderness of its body and its long limbs. For many years it was thought to have only partially retractable claws, but zoologists now agree that they are wholly retractable but lack the covering skin found in the other cats. The spotted coat is coarse in texture, the colour varying from tawny to a bright reddish fawn with paler underparts. The ears are small and rounded, and the tail is relatively long. In India it has been trained and used for hunting for centuries, and is renowned for its speed when chasing game. It takes readily to domestication, being of placid temperament, and can be trained to walk on a lead.

The wild cat (Plate 6) has been known in the British Isles, central and southern Europe, and



Cheetah or Hunting Leopard

parts of northern and central Asia, since the mammoth period, although strangely enough it is not found in Ireland. Its fossilised remains have been discovered in caves, together with the bones and teeth of mammoths. There were once great numbers in the British Isles, but it now appears to be a rarity everywhere but in the Highlands of Scotland. There its numbers are decreasing yearly, due to its habit of preying on livestock and game, such as rabbits, hares, birds, small deer and lambs, and its consequent destruction.

It was once thought that the domestic cat was the wild cat tamed, but it is now agreed that they are two distinct breeds, although there are many instances of the domestic cat running wild and interbreeding with the wild species.

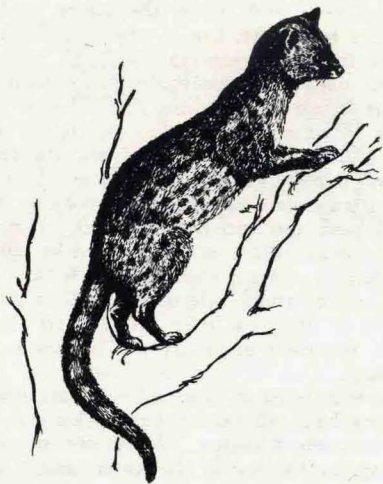
Although not unlike many of the domestic tabbies in general colouring, the wild cat is easily distinguishable by its superior size and strength, being up to as much as three feet in length. The head is large and square with voluminous whiskers. The coat is yellowish-grey with a dark streak running

along the back and down the short bushy tail, which does not taper, but is nearly uniform in its thickness from the top to the tip. There are concentric dark bands on the sides of the coat, the underpart being whitish, and the soles of the feet are black. The male is usually much larger than the female. This species is noted for its strength, agility and fierceness, although it does not normally attack a man unless extremely provoked. It is an expert climber and nocturnal in habit. It makes its home in forests interspersed with rocks, cliffs and trees, living in crevices and caves, in hollow stumps and under tree roots, where the kittens are born, often four or five in a litter, and looked after with the same devotion given by the domestic cats to their young.

On the west coast of Scotland wild cats living near to the sea have adopted what appears to be an almost complete fish diet. They are most adept in clawing the fish out of the water, and have been seen introducing their young ones to the art of fishing. This is done at low water, and is a very pretty and interesting sight.

Many attempts have been made to tame a specimen, but either the kittens succumb to illness when brought into contact with other animals before much headway has been made, or if they have lived, have failed to respond to kindness. Several well-known naturalists are endeavouring to keep wild cats, but even litters brought up by hand are still proving vicious, needing to be handled in gloves. It will be interesting to see, if these cats breed, whether their offspring will be tameable. At the beginning of the century several wild cats were exhibited at various cat shows.

Some members of the Viverridae family, or the civet tribe, which includes the palm-civets, the



A member of the Civet tribe

genets and the mongooses, are closely connected with the cats, but their faces and bodies are longer, and the legs are shorter. A few have fully retractile claws, as in the felines, but in others there is only partial retraction. They are found in south-eastern Asia, Madagascar and Africa. The palm-civets in particular are attractive cat-like creatures, often tamed, appreciating domesticity and becoming very attached to their owners. There are various types, but generally they are about the size of a large cat on shorter legs, with a long tail, the fur being brownish-grey or yellowish-brown in colour.

LONG-HAIRED CATS

ORANGE-EYED

One colour: Black, White, Blue, Cream, Red.

Two colours: Blue-cream, Smoke, Bi-coloured.

Three colours: Tortoiseshell.

Four colours: Tortoiseshell and white.

Tabby: Red, Brown.

BLUE-EYED

One colour: White. Two colours: Colourpoints, Birmans.

GREEN-EYED

Ticked coat: Chinchillas.

GREEN OR

HAZEL-EYED

Tabby: Silver.

Any other Variety. All Colours.

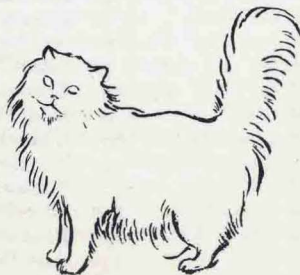
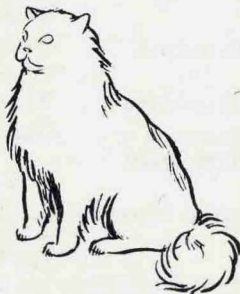
BREED NUMBERS

1. Black
2. White (Blue Eyes)
- 2a. White (Orange eyes)
3. Blue
4. Red Self
5. Cream
6. Smoke
7. Silver Tabby
8. Brown Tabby
9. Red Tabby
10. Chinchilla
11. Tortoiseshell
12. Tortoiseshell-and-white
- 12a. Bi-coloured
13. Blue cream
- 13a. Any Other Colour
- 13b. Colourpoint
- 13c. Birmans

In most of the early legends and tales about cats, they are nearly always referred to as being short in coat. In Europe it was not until the end of the sixteenth century that long-haired cats began to make their appearance, although they are supposed to have been known in Persia for some time before that. It is claimed that Nicholas Claude Fabri de Peirese, a naturalist, scientist and archaeologist, introduced the first Angora to France about this time, and it is presumed that the cat actually came from Angora. It is from the Angoras, later called Persians and now referred to as Long-haired, that by selective breeding the many coloured and beautifully typed varieties of today have evolved.

Although not so numerous in this country as the short-haired, the long-haired cats are very popular, and opinions are always divided as to which are the more attractive. The different varieties have a large following and are much admired at shows.

The coat colourings may be different, but the standards call for all long-hairs to have long flowing silky coats, without woolliness. One



Outline of Long-haired cat

distinctive feature is the full ruff or frill. This is the long hair around the head, which is brushed up away from the body and neck until it forms a perfect frame for the round broad head. The ears must be small, set well apart and tufted. The eyes may be of different colours according to the varieties, but they must be large, round, wide-awake eyes, not deep-set. The nose must be short and broad, almost snub-like, with a distinct stop. The body should be low and cobby, with short, thick legs, and the tail or brush short and very full.

They are in no way delicate, and need no special upbringing. Their long coats call for constant attention but their owners are adequately repaid for their labours, for a well-groomed long-haired cat invariably attracts much admiration.

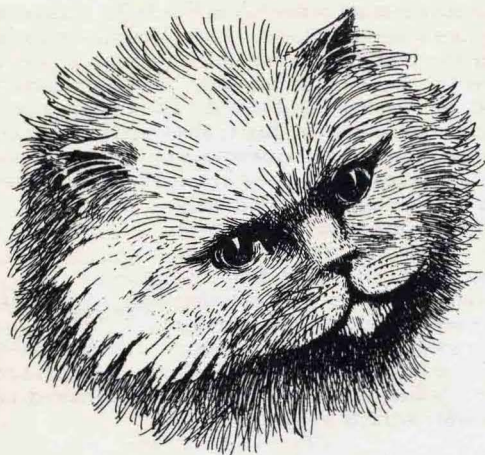


Tail of Long-haired cat

LONG-HAIRED BREED No. 1.

BLACK (PLATE 1)

One of the oldest breeds in Britain, the black long-haired cat was much more numerous years ago than it is today. Before and between the two wars, this was a breed that attracted much attention at cat shows. For some reason, since the last war it has declined considerably in popularity, and often at the shows today only one or two are exhibited. It is a great pity, for when it is in full coat its beauty is hard to surpass. The contrast between the dense black of the long soft coat and the large round deep orange eyes is most striking. In the past, Blacks have won the award of Best in Show on many occasions. Although there are so very few of them, the type today is very good. When young, the kittens are often rusty of coat with shady roots, but these may turn out to be the finest cats with the



Head of Long-haired cat

densest black coats. Sometimes they have the appearance of a Smoke, with a whitish undercoat and very little pure black showing, but with age this will disappear and the lovely dense black colouring comes through, improving as the kitten reaches maturity. A black cat may often come into its full beauty with the second coat, that is, between the ages of twelve and eighteen months.

As in the other long-haired breeds, the head should be broad and round, with good space between the ears, which must be small and set at the side of the

head. They must be tufted, neatly rounded at the tops, well covered, with no skin showing through. Large wide-open eyes of deepest copper or orange, with no trace of green, are required. The body should be cobby, with short thick legs, making it low to the ground and forming a square.

A long-bodied cat is ungainly and there will be no balance of the head and the brush, as the tail is called; this must be short and well furnished, so that it looks as broad as the body when fully brushed out. The under part must be as black as the body colour and not shaded or rusty. A brownish tinge appears on the coat if the cat is often out in the sun, if the coat is frequently licked, and also when moulting. For perfection the coat should be jet black down to the roots, long and fine of texture. When showing a Black, it is necessary to groom and polish the coat for weeks with a silk handkerchief or chamois leather. This, in addition to giving the fur the so much admired lustrous jet black sheen, may help to remove any white hairs. These are frequently seen, but may fall out with the polishing, as they are coarser in texture than the other hairs. A badly-presented cat is disappointing for the judge, who will be looking for something really outstanding in coat; first appearance is so important, and with a very little effort a Black can always look ready for showing.

For breeding, it is advisable to use one of the best type of long-haired Blues to help to continue the grand type which some of the best have. Black to Black breeding is often used, and is excellent, but it is also wise to use a Blue stud sometimes. This was done in the past, and most successful Blacks in Britain were bred in this way, or had a Blue grandsire or grand-dam.

There are many superstitions associated with black

cats, both long and short-haired, although opinion seems to be divided as to whether they are lucky or unlucky. Once they were looked upon as witches' cats and familiars of the devil. Although black cats are usually good-tempered and make excellent pets, to see one in a terrific rage with the large orange eyes blazing can be an awesome sight, and one can well understand why they were regarded as having supernatural powers in medieval days.

In Germany, the appearance of a black cat in the room of a sick person was said to portend death, but in Cornwall to have a black cat in the house was supposed to be a preventive or cure for epilepsy.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Lustrous raven black to the roots, and free from rustiness, shading, white hairs, or markings of any kind.	25
Coat: Long and flowing on the body, full frill and brush, which should be short and broad.	20
Body: Cobby and massive, without being coarse, with plenty of bone and substance, and low on the leg.	20
Head: Round and broad, with plenty of space between the ears, which should be small, neat, and well covered; short nose, full cheeks and broad muzzle.	20
Eyes: Large, round and wide open, copper or deep orange in colour, with no green rim.	15
	100

Note.—Black Long-haired kittens are often a very bad colour up to five or six months, their coats being grey or rusty in parts, and sometimes freely speckled with white hairs. Fanciers should not condemn them on this account if good in other respects, as these kittens frequently turn into the densest Blacks.

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 2.

WHITE (BLUE-EYED)

(PLATE 1)

There are two white long-haired breeds recognised by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, the white with blue eyes and the white with orange eyes. The Blue-eyed White is the original breed, and was known abroad generations before breeding was started in Great Britain. France had many with glorious deep blue eye colour. They were supposed to have been imported from Asia originally, and were known as Angoras, later to be called Persians. Years of selective breeding produced the fine specimens seen in North America and France today. Forty or fifty years ago Britain too had some excellent types, but now there are comparatively few being bred. Probably this is partly due to the deafness which seems to affect most blue-eyed white cats. Very few have perfect hearing. Any odd-eyed specimens, that is, with one blue eye and one orange eye, appear to have good hearing. These are useful for breeding, and have been used most successfully in the past.

The Whites keep themselves spotlessly clean generally, and it is often remarked that they must have been kept shut in to be so immaculate. This is quite untrue, as many people allow them complete freedom and the coats are still glistening and pure white. The feet and paws may become soiled sometimes, but if this happens just before a show, a little warm soapy water and a quick dry will soon put matters right.

White cats must be kept free from yellow markings, which are great faults but are often seen at shows. As with all breeds, whether long-haired or short-haired, the tail of a White must be kept free from grease which tends to make it yellow. Males seem to be most affected, but with constant grooming

the tail can be kept as clean and pure in colour as the rest of the body. A cat with a yellow greasy tail would be placed down at a show.

Rarely does the Blue-eyed White seem to have the type so desired in all long-hairs. The nose is inclined to be narrower and longer, the ears taller, the head narrower, and often the body is longer than liked. The coat is nearly always of the softest texture, long and luxuriant, with a short and full brush. Purity of coat colour is very beautiful to see, and it counts so much to present the perfectly prepared exhibit. Ideally, the body should be cobby, low on the legs, forming a square. It must not be coarse. The nose should be short, with a strong muzzle, as a shallow muzzle may spoil an otherwise good specimen. The ears must be well-furnished, and the round and wide-set eyes should be deep blue.

Standard

	<i>Points</i>
Colour: Pure white, without mark or shade of any kind.	25
Coat: Long and flowing on the body, full frill and brush, which should be short and broad; the coat should be close and soft and silky, not woolly in texture.	20
Body: Cobby and massive, without being coarse, with plenty of bone and substance, and low on the leg.	20
Head: Round and broad, with plenty of space between the ears, which should be small, neat and well covered; short nose, full cheeks and broad muzzle.	20
Eyes: Large, round and wide open, deep blue in colour.	15
	100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED NO. 2A.

WHITE (ORANGE-EYED)

(PLATE 4)

In an endeavour to improve the type of the Blue-eyed White, mating the females with Blue, Black and Cream Long-hairs was tried. All these breeds have orange eyes, and the results of these out-matings were some of the loveliest of whites, with brilliant orange or copper eyes. The effect of these eyes in lovely typed snow-white faces was much admired and the breed became very popular. For many years the two varieties were shown in the same classes at cat shows, but as it was found that the orange-eyed invariably had much better type, they were given a separate breed number in 1938, and separate judging in the open classes with challenge certificates for both breeds was then possible. Whites are not necessarily obtained from two white cats, and the mating of a White with a Black may result in a litter containing both black and white kittens.

Although the war was responsible for many breeds becoming rare, this variety did not seem to suffer, and today there are some wonderfully typed Orange-eyed Whites being shown. They do not appear to be affected by deafness. France seems to excel in breeding this variety and there are many really outstanding specimens shown there.

At British shows, a cat with a sparkling fully white coat, a big frill and large round wide-open orange eyes, in beautiful show condition and well exhibited, attracts much admiration and attention.

Standard

	<i>Points</i>
Colour: Pure white, without mark or shade of any kind.	25

Coat:	Long and flowing on body, full frill and brush, which should be short and broad; the coat should be close and soft and silky, not woolly in texture.	20
Body:	Cobby and massive, without being coarse, with plenty of bone and substance, and low on the leg.	20
Head:	Round and broad, with plenty of space between the ears, which should be small, neat, and well covered; short nose, full cheeks and broad muzzle.	20
Eyes:	Large, round and wide open, orange or copper in colour.	15

100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 3.

BLUE PERSIAN

(PLATES 4, 7)

The Blue Persian cat is the most popular of the long-haired breeds. With its broad head, tiny ears, short broad nose, round deep orange or copper-coloured eyes, cobby body on short legs with well tufted feet, and a short full tail, it is a beautiful animal. It has been known in Britain for about seventy years. It was first shown as a separate self breed at the Crystal Palace in 1898; previous to that it was entered in the 'Any other Variety' classes.

One of the great beauties of this cat is the colour, which must be level and sound to the roots, without any shading. At one time, there was an inclination for white spots of hair to appear at the throat and on the stomach, but these blemishes have been mostly eradicated and they are now considered very serious faults if they should be present. There are many shades of blue, ranging from pale to deep colour, but the colour must be the same all over, and when the fur is parted the roots must be the

same colour as the tips. A very bad fault is a dark spine and tail, which generally is of coarser hair. This will spoil the look of a pale-coloured specimen. It is not so noticeable in the darker Blue, but as the hair is so much coarser, it is seen and felt. Many fanciers prefer and endeavour to produce the paler coloured coats, but the Blue Persian Cat Society's standard states definitely that any shade of blue coat is allowable. A cobby body is required, with short thick legs, well furnished. When the body is long, the whole appearance of the cat is spoilt. It must be stressed that the eyes should be large, wide open, bold and of brilliant deep orange or copper colour. A deep-set eye detracts from the appearance. Width is needed between the eyes to get the beautiful open expression which is so much appreciated. A short broad nose is required, as with a narrow one there is no width between the eyes. The skull should be broad, in order to have the great space between the small and neat ears, which must be set well down at either side of the wide skull. The ears must not be open at the base, but tiny and well tufted, and this with a short face and nose makes up into a beautiful-looking cat from the head point of view. The tail should be short and very full, with no pale colour underneath. Each day the fur of the tail should be opened out with a brush or a comb, and it will then look as lovely as the body fur, which, of course, must also be well groomed every day. A kink at the end or middle of the tail is a great fault, and in the opinion of many fanciers an animal having this should not be used for breeding, as kinks have a bad habit of turning up in future generations. When first born the kittens, as with the other pale self colour breeds, may have tabby markings, which will gradually disappear as the kitten grows older.

The type of the Blue Persian has improved greatly since the pre-war years, and this breed is frequently used in an endeavour to introduce its type into some of the other long-haired varieties. It is a very popular breed on the continent and in North America, and many of the outstanding champions abroad have been bred from imported British stock.

Standard

	Points
Coat: Any shade of blue allowable, sound and even in colour; free from markings, shadings or any white hairs. Fur long, thick and soft in texture. Frill full.	20
Condition:	10
Head: Broad and round, with width between the ears. Face and nose short. Ears small and tufted. Cheeks well developed.	25
Eyes: Deep orange or copper; large, round and full, without a trace of green.	20
Body: Cobby, and low on the legs.	15
Tail: Short and full, not tapering (a kink shall be considered a defect).	10
	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

Fanciers should not be deterred from showing their cats if they do not come up to this high standard.

LONG-HAIRED

BREED NO. 4.

RED SELF

(PLATE 3)

A perfect Red Self is very difficult to breed and is hardly ever seen in Britain. More often than not, tabby markings appear. If the body is self-coloured the head will show markings, and vice versa. Some appear on the show benches in North America and Scandinavia, but even though their colouring is very good, very few are really Red Selfs, having stripes somewhere.

A true Red Self would be most attractive, with a deep rich red coat and the type as for the Blue and other long-haired breeds. A few breeders are still endeavouring to produce a really outstanding specimen, but others have been most disappointed with their efforts and have given up. A Tortoiseshell might be of help if mated to a dark 'hot' Cream or a Red Tabby with a very few indistinct markings.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Deep rich red, without markings.	50
Coat: Long, dense and silky; tail short and flowing.	
Body: Cobby and solid, short thick legs.	15
Head: Broad and round, small ears well set and well tufted, short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes: Large and round, deep copper colour.	15
	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

LONG-HAIRED

BREED NO. 5.

CREAM

(PLATE 5)

The colour of this very lovely and popular cat is most important. The pale cream, clear and sound to the roots, is a good contrast to the deep copper eye colour required. The eyes must be large and round with great width between to give a short broad nose. Together these give a grand broad head with small neat well-placed tufted ears, set low to the top of the head. They must not stand high, as this spoils an otherwise good cat, nor must they be wide at the base.

There should be no markings or shadings but a pure very uniform colour over and under the whole of the body. A white undercoat is a great fault and there

must be no white at the tip of the tail, one of the worst faults to be found in a Cream. The stomach should be as cream as the back and sides and underneath of the tail. The brush must be as wide as the back, carrying on the width from the shoulders to the tip of the tail. Some may think this is an impossibility, but with perseverance and grooming of the tail each day from babyhood, the fur will stand out from the structure and become a beautifully full and spreading brush, as even in colour as the body fur. A 'hot' cream colour is most undesirable, as with the deeper shade the hair is inclined to be coarse and not of the softest texture as it should be. Unfortunately, the 'hot' or reddish tinge returns to the breed when careful consideration is not given to the matings of certain lines to each other. It is of great importance to study the pedigrees, to find out the good and bad faults of certain cats and strive to get away from the bad. The stud that is selected for the queen should be the very best possible to enable her to give of the best. Bad faults can so easily be brought into a strain and it takes a long time to get them out.

In the past breeders have striven to keep away from a Red, so that the pale and unmarked cream colouring should not be damaged. To breed Blue blood into the Creams is most helpful and will help to keep the wonderful type of the Creams today. Some of the finest Creams ever bred have come through a Blue sire. Flick-a-Maroo and Champion Mischief of Bredon, famous Blue sires in the past, had famous Cream sons, Champion Buff of Hanley and Champion Biscuit of Hanley respectively. To mate Cream to Cream is quite good for a certain time, but it should not be carried on for too long as there is an inclination to revert to the hotter colour and the less good type.

Beautifully typed Creams are now appearing in greater numbers, and maybe they are on their way to rivalling the Blues. A pale cream kitten with a full coat and a broad head with large round copper-coloured eyes is a most decorative pet to have in the house and is an irresistible attraction to visitors.

<i>Standard</i>		<i>Points</i>
Colour:	Pale to medium, to be pure and sound throughout, without shading or markings.	30
Coat:	Long, dense and silky, tail short and flowing.	
Coat and Condition:		20
Body:	Cobby and solid, short thick legs.	15
Head:	Broad and round, small ears well set and well tufted, short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes:	Large and round, deep copper colour.	15
		100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 6.

SMOKE

(PLATE 5)

A Smoke is exceedingly difficult to breed, but a good one that conforms to the recognised standards is distinctive and beautiful. Invariably it is referred to as a 'cat of contrasts', for the body must be black shading to silver on the sides and flanks. The mask and feet should be black also, with no sign of tabby markings, the frills and eartufts should be silver, and the undercoat pearly-white. The silvery frill against the dark face and cobby body is most alluring, and with the large round copper eyes set wide apart, this cat presents an exceedingly lovely picture. In particular, of all the long-haired varieties, Smokes require constant grooming, to prevent their striking appearance being marred by shaggy and disreputable coats.

They are very hardy, of high intelligence, and make lovely and affectionate pets.

In the past there were some very fine Smokes in Britain, but during the war they appeared to die out. Some conscientious breeders have been endeavouring to revive the breed, and a few specimens are now appearing on the show bench; some fine examples very near the pre-war standard may be seen. In Holland, breeders have done much work in endeavours to produce really excellent Smokes. They have tried crossing Chinchillas with Blue long-hairs, and the resulting Blue Chinchillas with Blacks. This produces Smokes and Blue Smokes. Blue Smokes are also a recognised breed here, but as blue replaces the black colouring, the results are not nearly so striking.

The kittens are born black, with no white showing at all. It is not until they are some weeks old that the lighter undercoat can be seen, and it is very difficult for an inexperienced breeder to assess a kitten's possibilities until it is some months old.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Body, black, shading to silver on sides and flanks; mask and feet, black with no markings; frill and ear tufts, silver; undercolour, as nearly white as possible.	40
Coat and Condition: Silky in texture, long and dense, extra long frill.	20
Shape: Head broad and round, with width between ears, snub nose. Ears small and tufted. Body cobby, not coarse but massive, short legs.	20
Eyes: Orange or copper in colour, large and round in shape, pleasing expression.	10
Brush: Short and bushy.	10
	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 7.

SILVER TABBY

(PLATE 8)

A Silver Tabby with dense black markings showing up well against the true silver ground is a creature of beauty. Fifty years ago, at a National Cat Club Show, there was an entry of twenty-eight, whereas at any shows today, usually only two or three are shown. It is thought by some that the decline is a consequence of more people taking up the Chinchilla breed, but if this is so, it is a great pity, as the Silver Tabby has many admirers, and its popularity would rapidly increase if more fanciers bred them. It is said that the Chinchillas originated through the Silvers, but this cannot be definitely proved, as unfortunately there do not appear to be any records of the results achieved by the experiments of the early breeders.

The biggest fault in the long-haired Silvers today is the ground colour which is not always the true silver it should be, but is often brindled and grey, and the markings are not distinct or dark enough. The true tabby markings should be plainly seen and should not run into each other as they often do, and several breeders are trying hard to improve them. The type is not always good and the ears are inclined to be too tall.

It was the opinion of one early breeder of Silvers that the breed started to deteriorate when the green eye became the standard, and it was thought that if the old hazel eye colour were to return, it would be a great incentive to breeders. Today's standards say 'green or hazel.' Judicial cross-breeding may bring about an improvement in this breed, possibly with Blues, as this would also help to get the type needed; a broad round head, with width between the ears, short broad nose and strong muzzle. A pure silver ground is required with dense black

markings on a long soft silky coat. Any brown or yellow tinge at the lips or on the face is a decided fault, and there must be no brindling of the undercoat. It must be acknowledged that this is one of the most difficult of the long-haired cats to breed to perfection.

Standard

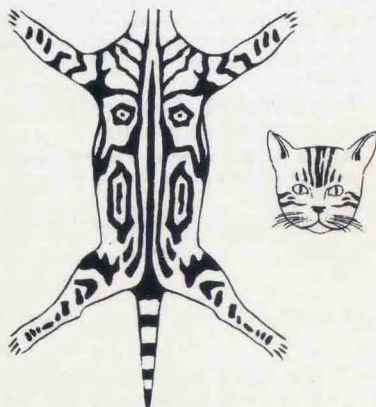
	<i>Points</i>
Colour: Ground colour pure pale silver, with decided jet black markings; any brown tinge a drawback.	40
Head: Broad and round, with breadth between ears and wide at muzzle; short nose, small well-tufted ears.	20
Shape: Cobby body, short thick legs.	15
Eyes: Green or hazel.	
Coat and Condition: Silky in texture, long and dense, extra long on frill.	15
Tail: Short and bushy.	10
	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

LONG-HAIRED BREED NO. 8.

BROWN TABBY (PLATE 8)

Although tabbies of every colour may be found among house pets, and tabby markings have a tendency to crop up in the wrong pedigree breeds, to produce a long-haired brown tabby with the correct pattern of markings and colourings is not an easy undertaking. Up to 1939, there were some exceptionally handsome Brown Tabbies in Britain, and indeed, they won quite a few of the highest awards. With the coming of the war, the breed deteriorated rapidly and good specimens became very rare. During recent years there has been a revival of the breed, but opinion seems to be

divided as to whether the colour has yet reached the standard of the rich tawny shade of the pre-war cats. The breed is called Brown Tabby, but this is rather indefinite, as the colour should be a rich tawny sable, with dense black markings conforming to a definite pattern continuing from the back to under the body and joining in the middle of the stomach. There should be no white tip to the tail. One or two of the breeders exhibiting at recent shows seem to be achieving a certain amount of success in that direction, although there is a tendency for the pale, or in some cases white, chin and lips to appear, which is a great disfigurement. In the past few years, some judges have found it has been necessary to withhold the granting of challenge certificates as several of the cats were showing brindling. Rarely does this breed have the type seen



Typical Tabby markings. Note 'butterfly' on shoulder.

in the majority of the other long-haired breeds. Generally the head is narrower and longer, with the ears too much on top. The eyes are usually well placed, large and wide open, and of hazel or copper colour.

At birth, the kittens may appear to be too heavily marked, although the ground colouring is good. When teething is over the stripes will possibly become more distinct and the background colour clearer. From a breeding point of view, it is wiser to keep the kitten with the cobbiest body and the best type head.

Standard

Colour and	Points
Markings: Rich tawny sable, with delicate black pencillings running down face. The cheeks crossed with two or three distinct swirls. The chest crossed by two unbroken narrow lines, butterfly markings on shoulders. Front of legs striped regularly from toes upwards. The saddle and sides to have deep bands running down them, and the tail to be regularly ringed.	
Coat: Long and flowing, tail short and full.	50
Body: Cobby and massive, short legs.	15
Head: Round and broad; small well-placed and well-tufted ears, short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes: Large and round, hazel or copper colour.	15
	100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 9.

RED TABBY

(PLATE 9)

The Red Tabby has a great fascination for some breeders, and in a few specimens the lovely rich copper-red colour has been perfected. This breed must not be confused with the 'Ginger' tabby pet

cats. The colour of these is usually quite sandy in comparison with the vivid rich red colouring of the pedigree breed. As with all coloured tabbies, the markings are most important, and must be carried right down the back and sides. A solid back is a bad fault and would count against a cat on a show bench. The markings must be dark red and the body colour red, and to get distinct stripes to show up on a similar background is most difficult, but it can be and has been done in the past and the present day.

The type of this cat is not always good, inclining to a narrower head than the majority of the long-haired cats, and the ears are on the tall side, which again is a bad fault. It seems to be very difficult to breed a really good typed Red Tabby, with a round broad head and neat small ears. The short broad nose and full cheeks with the dainty tabby swirls are more often seen, and when the specimen has large and wide-open copper eyes, it is most attractive. A small eye, which is often deep-set as well, detracts from a good cat.

One of the worst faults, and also one of the hardest to breed out, is a white tip to the tail. White stars under the chin, on the chest or low down on the stomach, also appear sometimes and would be penalised by any judge. Care should be taken when breeding as the white may be handed on, and may become even more difficult to breed out.

Standard

Colour and	Points
Markings: Deep, rich red colour, markings to be clearly and boldly defined, continuing on down the chest, legs and tail.	50
Coat: Long, dense and silky; tail short and flowing, with no white tip.	

Body:	Cobby and solid, short thick legs.	15
Head:	Broad and round, small ears well set and well tufted, short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes:	Large and round, deep copper colour.	15
		100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 10.

CHINCHILLA

(PLATE 9)

One of the loveliest of the long-haired breeds is the Chinchilla, and its fairy-like appearance is much admired at shows, where it often wins the high award of 'Best in Show'. Fifty years ago there was a great interest shown in this breed, and at one show there were over thirty exhibits. After the last war, with its feeding troubles and consequent effects on breeding, it was difficult to get the matings that were required to arrive once again at the perfect type, colouring and eye colour. During the last ten years many more have taken up breeding these cats, and it is possible that in the near future pre-war numbers will be reached once again.

The beauty of this charming cat is its purity of colouring, the white undercoat, each hair tipped with black, coming over the head, ears, chest, stomach and under the tail, and the white cartufts showing up against the ticking on the ears. Very little shading on the legs is allowed and there should never be bars or smudges. The slightest pencilling or tabby marks on the face are great faults. Yellow or lightish brown shadings are not permitted, and the tail should always be kept clean as, owing to the grease that sometimes accumulates at the roots of the tail, the hair becomes darkened and is discoloured. A light powdering well brushed into the tail will keep it from going yellow.

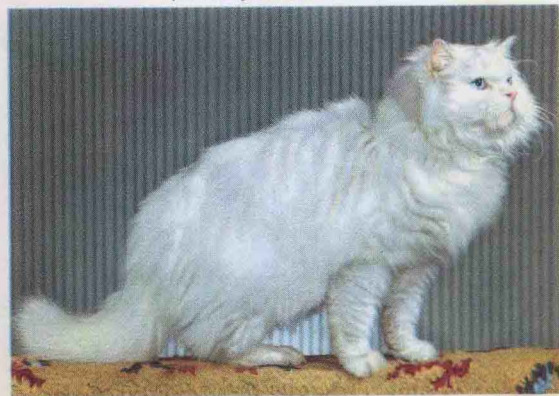


Long-haired

Breed No. 1

BLACK

(Owned by Mrs. E. Aitken)

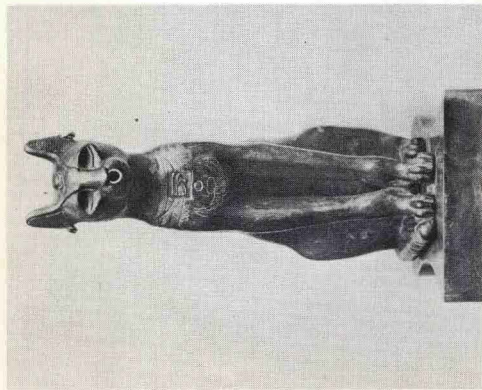


Long-haired

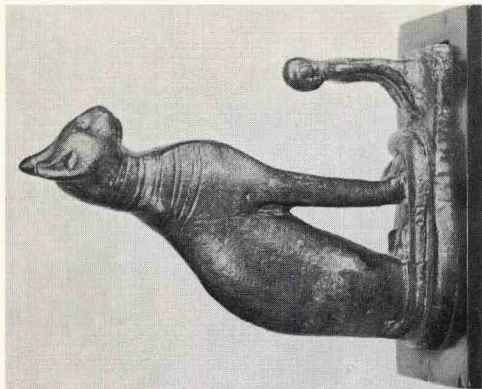
Breed No. 2

WHITE WITH BLUE EYES

(Owned by Miss I. Sherlock)

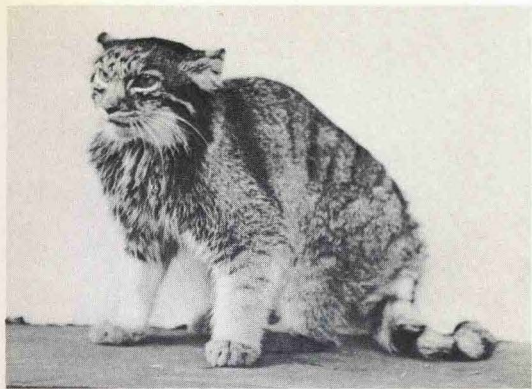


British Museum



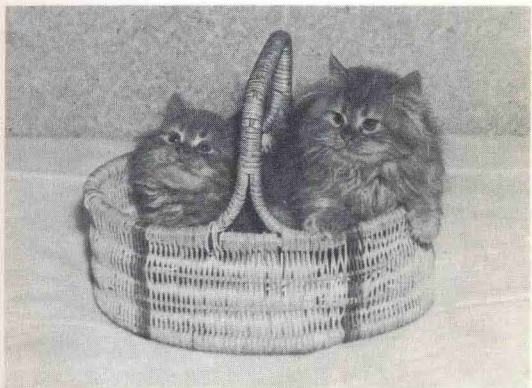
Langton Collection

EGYPTIAN BRONZE FIGURES OF CATS



Zoological Society of London

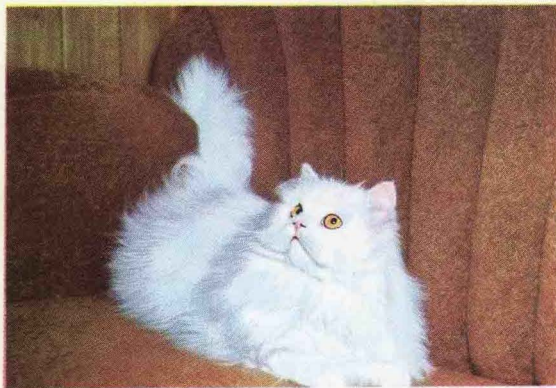
MANUL OR PALLAS'S CAT



Breed No. 4

Owned by Mrs. Richards

RED SELF LONG-HAIRED KITTENS

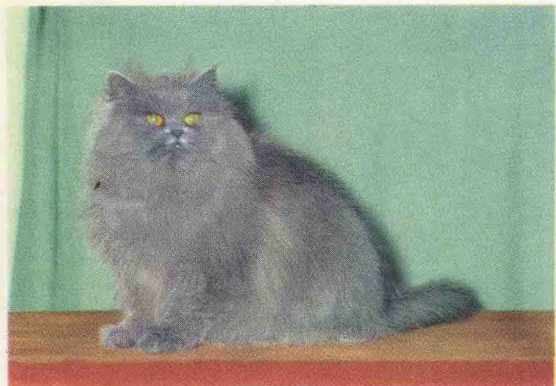


Long-haired

Breed No. 2a

WHITE WITH ORANGE EYES

(Owned by Mrs. B. Belcher)



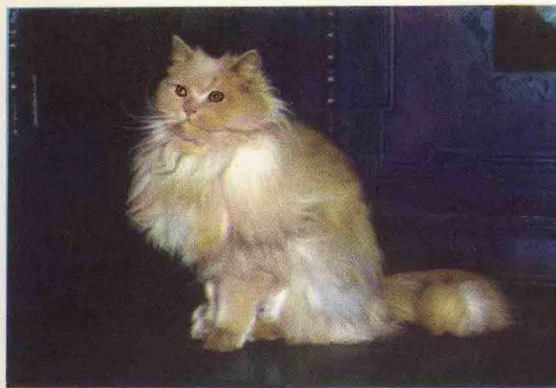
Long-haired

Breed No. 3

BLUE

(Owned by Mrs. G. Pond)

Plate 4



Long-haired

Breed No. 5

CREAM

(Owned by Mrs. M. Johnson)



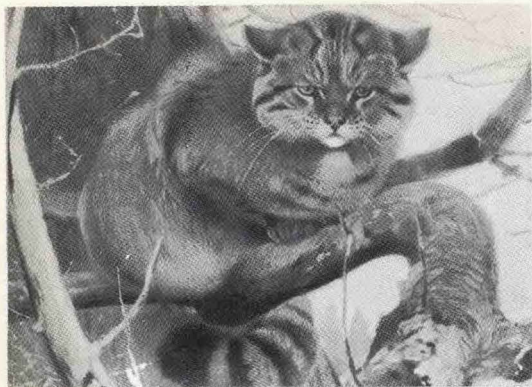
Long-haired

Breed No. 6

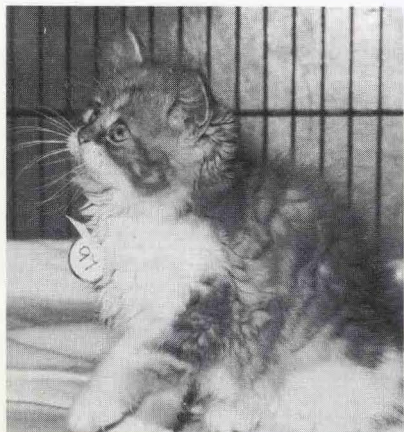
SMOKE

(Owned by Miss D. Collins)

Plate 5



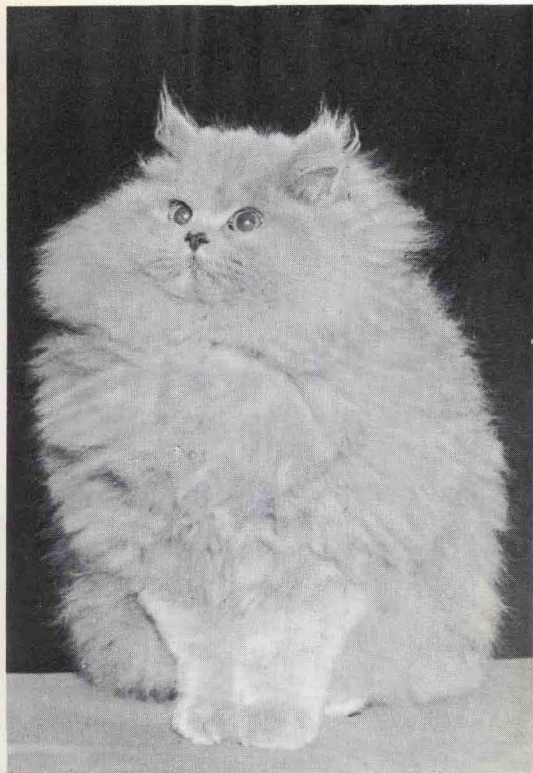
WILD CAT



Breed No. 12a

Photo: Anne Cumbers

LONG-HAIRED RED AND WHITE
BI-COLOUR



Breed No. 3

Owned by Mrs. G. Pond

PRIZE-WINNING BLUE PERSIAN KITTEN

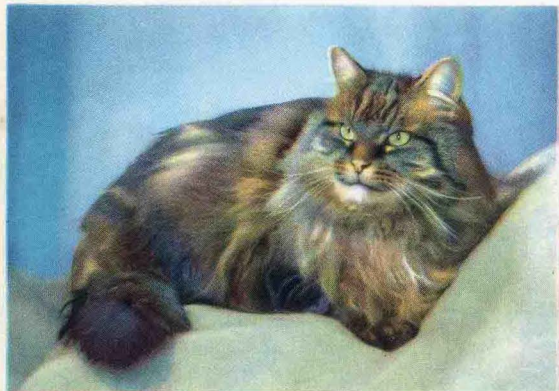


Long-haired

SILVER TABBY

(Owned by Mrs. E. Chappel)

Breed No. 7



Long-haired

BROWN TABBY

(Owned by Mrs. A. Cuthbert)

Breed No. 8



Long-haired

RED TABBY

(Owned by Mrs. B. Moore)

Breed No. 9

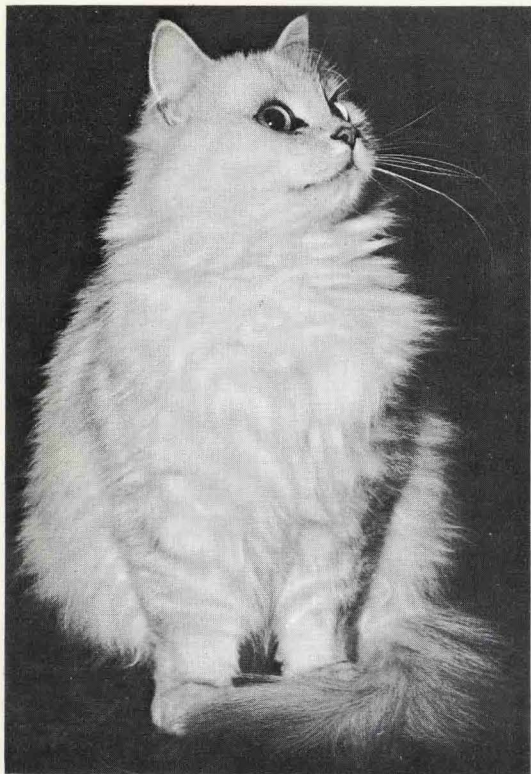


Long-haired

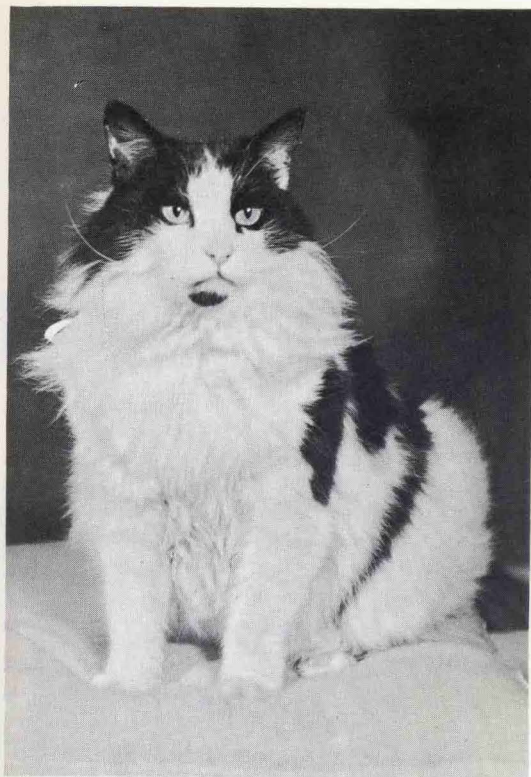
CHINCHILLA

(Owned by Mrs. M. Turney)

Breed No. 10



SHADED SILVER FROM AUSTRALIA



Breed No. 13a

Owned by Mrs. Roberts

LONG-HAIRED ANY OTHER COLOUR
Black-and-Tabby



Long-haired

TORTOISESHELL

(Owned by Miss N. Woodfield)

Breed No. 11



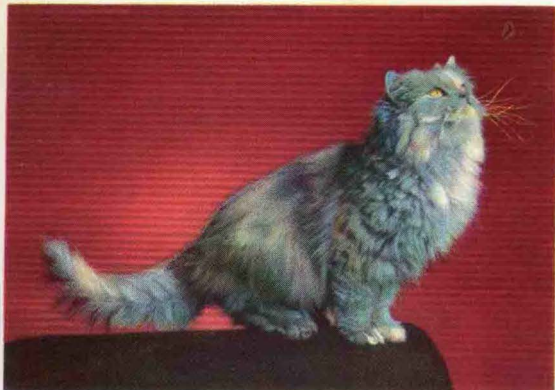
Long-haired

TORTOISESHELL-AND-WHITE

(Owned by Miss N. Woodfield)

Breed No. 12

Plate 12



Long-haired

BLUE-CREAM

(Owned by Mrs. E. Aitken)

Breed No. 13



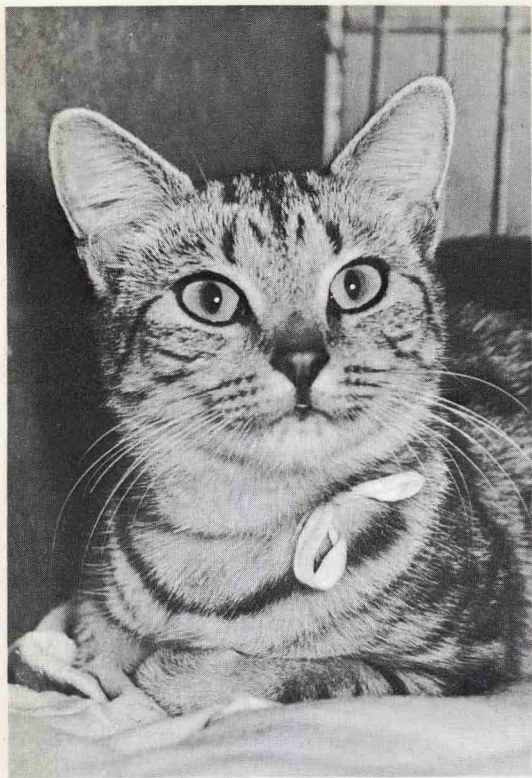
Long-haired

COLOURPOINT

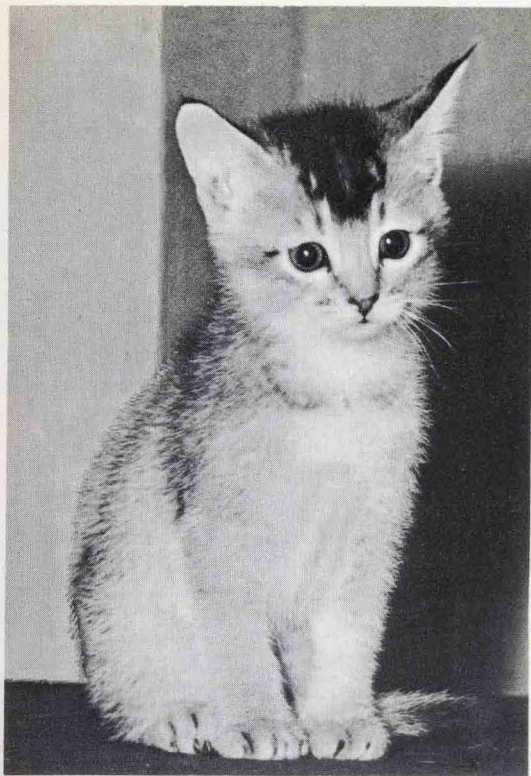
(Owned by Mrs. A. Watts)

Breed No. 13b

Plate 13



SHORT-HAIRED TABBY
Showing markings on face



Breed No. 23 *Owned by Mrs. Menezes*
ABYSSINIAN KITTEN AT FIVE WEEKS

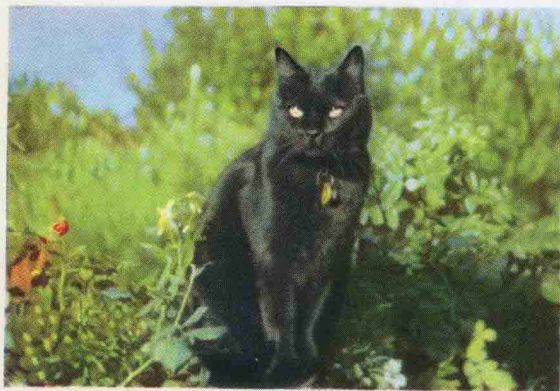


Short-haired

WHITE

(Owned by Miss A. Stubbs)

Breed No. 14



Short-haired

BLACK

(Owned by Miss P. Jones)

Breed No. 15

The ticking of the black on the white ground gives an ethereal look to these cats. Great beauty is added by the large wide-open eyes of deep emerald or sea green. Eye colour during recent years does not seem to be as good as in the past, which is a great pity. The eyes are made even more attractive by the skin of the lids showing a black or deep brown rim, the same colour as the pads of the feet. The standard calls for a 'brick red' tip to the nose, but this is not always seen today.

The name Chinchilla may bring to mind the small rodent which breeds high in the Andes, but there is no similarity at all, and no one seems to know why this particular name should have been given to the cats. The Chinchilla rabbit too is unlike in colouring, being bluish.

In North America and in the Commonwealth, a breed akin to the Chinchilla is bred and exhibited. This is the Shaded Silver (Plate 10), which has a pale silver undercoat, not white, and darker markings.

When first born, Chinchillas may give novice breeders a shock, as they have the appearance of being tabbies, with marks on the legs, tails and bodies; but as the kittens grow these markings gradually disappear, and the ticking shows up as the undercoat pushes through, so that the sparkling effect can be seen. The eyes become a lovely green, deepening as the kitten gets older.

The bone structure of the Chinchilla is not as heavy as in other long-haired breeds, but this is correct—so long as it is not too fine, as substance is wanted as well. Strength and firmness, without any signs of coarseness, are also required.

The Chinchilla should be always well groomed, to enable the undercoat to come through well, for without it the ticking lies heavily on the coat,

making the appearance too dark, and sometimes patchy. A clear even ticking is required, and this is shown to full advantage when the undercoat is full and holding up the ticked hairs.

Although both in Europe and North America there are outstanding specimens of this breed, winning Chinchillas from England are always in great demand.

Standard

	Points
Colour: The undercoat should be pure white, the coat on back, flanks, head, ears and tail being tipped with black, this tipping to be evenly distributed, giving the characteristic sparkling silver appearance; the legs may be very slightly shaded with the tipping, but the chin, ear tufts, stomach and chest must be pure white; any tabby marking or brown or cream tinge is a drawback. The tip of the nose should be brick-red, and the visible skin on eyelids and the pads should be black or dark brown.	25
Head: Broad and round, with breadth between ears and wide at the muzzle; snub nose; small well-tufted ears.	20
Shape: Cobby body; short thick legs.	15
Eyes: Large, round and most expressive, emerald or blue-green in colour.	15
Coat and Condition: Silky and fine in texture, long and dense, extra long on frill.	15
Tail: Short and bushy.	10
	100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED NO. 11.

TORTOISESHELL

(PLATE 12)

A Tortoiseshell cat is a fascinating pet in any home, being delightful to watch growing up, and most

decorative. Both in the long-haired and short-haired cats, this breed has been known for a number of years. There are three colours in the make-up, black, red and cream, and they must be in patches and spread over the whole body, including the face, ears, legs, paws and tail, and under the stomach. A patterned cat should always have the pattern completely around the body. The patching must not be too large, and must be of clear colours without white hairs or brindling. The general appearance must be of a balanced coat on a compact body.

The colour of the face is most important, and a blaze of red or cream running down between the eyes is much appreciated, adding attraction to the head. Large wide-open copper or deep orange eyes set well apart are desired. The type for this breed is usually very good. Occasionally a narrow face and weak chin may appear, but if a male with outstanding type is used for mating, this will quickly be bred out.

The Tortoiseshell is a good but stern mother, demanding obedience from her kittens. Almost invariably tortoiseshells are females, although an occasional male may appear. There is no truth in the oft-repeated statement that such a male would be worth his weight in gold, as unfortunately they are sterile. When mating the queen, a stud of the breed of one of the body colours should be selected. It is impossible to forecast what the kittens will be like, which makes breeding this variety most intriguing. Creams, Blacks, Reds and Torties could appear in the litter. Blues may also be used for mating. Red Tabbies have been used successfully, but in all probability markings will result from such a cross that may prove difficult to breed out.

A good Tortoiseshell with a well-patched coat with the three distinct colours is an entrancing sight, and always has many admirers at any show.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Three colours, black red and cream, well broken into patches; colours to be bright and rich and well broken on face.	50
Coat: Long and flowing, extra long on frill and brush.	
Body: Cobby and massive, short legs.	15
Head: Round and broad; small, well-placed and well-tufted ears; short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes: Large and round, deep orange or copper.	15
	100

LONG-HAIRED

TORTOISESHELL-AND-WHITE BREED NO. 12. (PLATE 12)

This breed is similar to the Tortoiseshell, with the addition of white to the red, cream and black colours. Too much white is not required, but it must be seen on the face, legs and feet, with a large amount on the chest. The colouring is spread rather like a mantle over the body, interspersed with white. There must be no tabby markings, bars or rings. The patching should be free of white hairs. Each patch must be of its own clear colour, without brindling. Should a queen always breed kittens with markings, it would be wiser from a show point of view to have her spayed, and entered in the neuter classes, of which there are many at the shows today. They make very handsome neuters and always attract the judges and the public.

As with Tortoiseshells, breeding cannot be a

scientific matter, as any male born is invariably sterile, and one of the self-coloured long-haired breeds may be used for mating. A stud with excellent type should be chosen, as this breed tends to have tall ears, and the standard calls for small and well-placed ears. It is not possible to foretell what kind of kittens will arrive, and it is always a pleasant surprise when a Tortie-and-white appears. A black and white kitten could come from a Tortie mother, and these are usually exceptionally beautiful. At present they are shown under 'any other colour', but perhaps one day they will make their appearance as a breed.

As with the Black Persians, polishing these cats is a great asset, for the colouring shows up with a sparkle and is greatly enhanced. Large round wide-apart eyes of deep orange or copper show up well in a good patched face, against the white in particular.

A cobby body with a full well-coloured coat and a short wide well-furnished brush is lovely to see and attracts great admiration. This breed has been brought out for best in show and has won the award on several occasions.

Standard

	Points
Colour: The three colours, black, red and cream, to be well distributed and broken and interspersed with white.	50
Coat: Long and flowing, extra long on brush and frill.	
Body: Cobby and massive, short legs.	15
Head: Round and broad; small, well-placed and tufted ears, short broad nose, full round cheeks.	20
Eyes: Large and round, deep orange or copper.	15
	100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 12a.

Cats with two-coloured coats were among the exhibits at the earliest cat shows, the black and whites being referred to as Magpies. They have now been granted recognition. The males will be most useful as studs for the female-only breeds, e.g. the Tortoiseshells and Tortie-and-whites. It is difficult to breed to the very precise markings required, as will be seen from the following standard:

Standard

Colour: Black and white, blue and white, orange and white, cream and white.
No tabby shadings in the self-coloured portion.

Markings: The self colour, i.e. black, blue, orange or cream to start immediately behind the shoulders round the barrel of body, and to include tail and hind legs, leaving the hind feet white. Ears and mask of face also self-coloured. White shoulders, neck, forelegs and feet, chin, lips and blaze up face and over top of head, joining or running into the white at back of the skull, thus dividing the mask exactly in half. The markings to follow those of a Dutch-marked rabbit as closely as possible.

Eyes: Copper, orange or amber.

Body: Cobby and low on the legs.

Tail: Short and full, not tapering (a kink shall be considered a defect).

The remaining fifty points to be apportioned according to the standards laid down for other long-hairs.

BI-COLOURED

(PLATE 6)

Points

20

25

5

50

100

LONG-HAIRED

BREED No. 13.

BLUE-CREAM

(PLATE 13)

This very popular breed is a product of matings between Blue and Cream Long-hairs, and occasionally the result of a Tortoiseshell mating with a Blue or even a Black Long-hair. It is very useful in the breeding of Creams. A shot-silk or misty haze is the desired effect, with a coat of soft and good texture of blue and cream intermingled. This is the standard aimed at in Great Britain and on the continent, but in the United States the coat must be patched as in the Tortoiseshell. For many years the English Blue-creams were patched, but this was not liked, and much work was done by British breeders to get the desired intermingling and the soft texture of the hair. The two colours should be of the palest pastel shades, with no trace of red. It is often found that an almost perfect specimen has small patches of cream or blue or both on the legs, face or head. This is a fault that fanciers are endeavouring to breed out to get perfect intermingling all over.

The head and body type of this breed has steadily improved, and it would be difficult to find a more cobby cat, equalling the finest specimens of the Blues and the Creams.

Males of this variety are seen very rarely and if they live are invariably sterile. There is always an element of surprise in the breeding of Blue-creams, and beginners interested in these cats may like to know that to produce a Blue-cream, a Cream female should be mated to a Blue male. This will give Cream male kittens and Blue-cream females. A Blue-cream female mated to a Cream will produce Blue-cream females, Blue males and both male and female Cream kittens. Owners of Blue females

who wish to start breeding Creams should mate the Blue female to a Cream male, which will give Blue males and Blue-cream females. A Blue-cream from this cross when mated to a Cream should produce Cream males and females, Blue-cream females and Blue males. When selecting a kitten from one of these matings, the one which appears to have no markings or patches and has the palest coat should be chosen as being most likely to help to produce that most elusive perfectly intermingled Blue-cream.

<i>Standard</i>		<i>Points</i>
Colour and Markings:	To consist of pastel shades of blue and cream, softly intermingled.	30
Coat:	Dense and very soft and silky.	
Coat and Condition:		20
Head and Type:	Head broad and round; tiny ears, well-placed and well-tufted; short broad nose; colour intermingled on face.	20
Eyes:	Deep copper or orange.	15
Body:	Short, cobby and massive, short thick legs.	15
		<hr/> 100

LONG-HAIRED ANY OTHER COLOUR BREED NO. 13a. (PLATE 11)

When cat shows first started in the late nineteenth century, apart from the Whites, Blacks and Tabbies, the rest of the long-haired cats were shown in one class, 'Any other colour', which made judging very difficult. Gradually as the result of painstaking selective breeding and the recognition of more breeds, with their separate open classes, the numbers in this class have grown less and less,

and at shows today it is not usual to find more than two or three cats entered under this heading.

A cat that does not conform to the specific standards for any particular breed required by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy may be registered as Breed 13a, Any Other Colour. No challenge certificates are given to the winners of these classes at shows, and naturally there can be no champions. 'Any other coloured' cats may be the result of cross-breeding, mis-mating, or a new breed which is being developed but has not yet received recognition. They may have long silky coats of black and tabby (Plate 11), or be tabbies with white, mackerel blue chinchillas and so on—in fact of any colourings, or markings not enumerated in the breed list. in the breed list.

They often make beautiful and unusual-looking pets and are useful in breeding for one or two of the recognised varieties.

LONG-HAIRED COLOURPOINT BREED NO. 13b. (PLATE 13)

Since 1945 a number of previously unrecognised varieties of cat have received official recognition, but only one of these has been a Long-hair. This is the Colourpoint, which was allotted a breed number in 1955 and now has classes provided for it at all Championship shows. These classes are already beginning to be well-filled as the variety grows in popularity, which it is doing at a phenomenal rate owing to the very striking appearance and spectacular beauty of these cats with their long cream hair, dark points and masks, and round blue eyes.

The Colourpoint carries the unique coat pattern of the Siamese with the type of the Persians (or

long-hairs). It is therefore not a long-haired Siamese, as some may imagine, as if it were it would have Siamese type.

Before the war a number of breeders in different parts of the world toyed with the idea of producing 'Long-haired Siamese'. A breeder in the United States of America carried out certain genetic experiments with Siamese and Long-hairs, and in England selected breeding was started on these lines.

The object was to produce Persian type cats with the Siamese colouration and this necessitated the introduction of a great deal more Persian blood. After the long-haired Siamese had been arrived at, they were mated to the best Persians possible, and in the process, of course, the kittens lost the Siamese coat pattern. This did not matter at all, because these self-coloured cats all carried the gene for this marking, and when suitably mated to each other gave a percentage of reasonably good Colour-points. These, when mated together, bred true, but it has been found expedient to re-introduce Persian blood from time to time in order to ensure the necessary type.

The main faults in the variety today are in the size and colour of the eyes. Most specimens tend to have a pale blue eye, not in any way comparable to the lovely sapphire blue of the Siamese, and the eyes are not yet quite large or round enough to measure up to the Persian standard. However, experiments are now going forward to remedy these faults.

As these cats improve in type they will become even more sought after and it is not too optimistic to prophesy that in time they will be one of the most popular of the long-haired breeds.

Standard

		Points
Coat.	Fur long, thick and soft in texture, frill full; colour to be seal-, blue- or chocolate-pointed with appropriate body colour as for Siamese (i.e. cream, glacial white or ivory respectively). Points to be dense and body shading, if any, to be the same as the points.	15
Points and	Body Colour:	10
Head:	Broad and round, with width between the ears; face and nose short; ears small and tufted, and cheeks well developed.	25
Eyes:	Shape large, round and full. Colour clear, bright and decidedly blue, the deeper the better.	10
Body:	Cobby and low on leg.	10
Tail.	Short and full, not tapering. A kink shall be considered a defect.	10
Condition.		10
		100

Note.—Any similarity, in type to Siamese to be considered most undesirable and incorrect.

LONG-HAIRED

BIHMAN (SACRED CAT OF BURMA)

BREED No. 13c.

(PLATE 23)

This attractive variety has been exhibited in France since 1931, and has recently been imported into England. It has now received official recognition.

The Birman has Siamese colourings, but is long-haired. It should have a well-proportioned long and massive body, with short sturdy legs. The shape of the head should be more like the type of the long-haired rather than that of the Siamese.

The fur must be long and luxurious, silky in texture, with a good ruff, and may have soft waves under the stomach. The eyes should be a deep vivid blue. The coat colour is very like that of the Siamese but should be slightly golden. A most distinctive feature is the flawless white tips to the paws. These on the brown points give the cat the appearance of wearing white gloves on the four feet. The mask, points and tail colouring are as for the Seal-pointed Siamese. A few are now being shown with the Blue-point colouring.

The Burmans are supposed to be descended from the sacred cats of the Burmese legends. These were kept in the temples as oracles hundreds of years ago.

Many years before the coming of Buddha, so the legend runs, in the Temple of Lao-Tsun in the mountains of Lugh in Indo-China, lived an old Kittah priest, Mun-Ha, who had a white cat called Sinh for his oracle. Together they would sit gazing at the golden statue of the Goddess with the sapphire eyes, Tsun-Kyankse, who presided over the transmigration of souls. One day the old priest died suddenly in front of the goddess, worn out with worry for his country which was threatened by invasion. As he died, the cat, Sinh, jumped on to the sacred throne and rested against the silvery white head of his old master, and the miracle of transmigration took place. Instead of being white, his fur became the golden colour of the statue, his yellow eyes became the sapphire blue of the goddess's, and his paws and ears turned to the dark brown of the ground, except for the tips of his paws which were touching the head of his dead master; they alone remained white. When the other priests came into the chamber, he compelled them by his gaze to go and repel the invaders who had so worried his master, and this they did.

He refused all food and after seven days he died, taking with him the perfect soul of his master. Another seven days followed and while the Kittahs were assembled before the Goddess to decide who should be the next high priest, the hundred temple cats, who were now no longer white but had become the same colouring as the dead Sinh, came in and surrounded Ligoa, the youngest of the priests, and so he was chosen.

Since then whenever one of the Temple's sacred cats dies, the soul of a priest is supposed to go with it to Paradise.

Standard

	Points
Colour and Condition: The colouring is the same as Siamese, seal and blue, but face (mask) tail and paws are dark brown with the seals and blue-grey with the blues. However, the beige of the coat is slightly golden. The paws are white-gloved, this being the characteristic of the Birman cat.	20
Body: Long but low on legs. Short strong, white paws. The white on the two back paws has to go up the back of the legs to a point, like a gauntlet.	20
Head: Wide, round but strongly built with full cheeks.	20
Fur: Long with good full ruff, bushy tail, silky texture, slightly curled on belly.	25
Eyes: Bright china blue.	5
Tail: Bushy (not short).	10
	100

TURKISH CATS

(PLATE 31)

There are numberless cats in Turkey, of many colours, and with all lengths of fur. Bearing in mind the fact that one of the old names for long-haired cats was the 'Angora' or 'Ankara' cat, it is

interesting to note that there is one particular variety in Turkey today, which has an all white coat, and one green eye and one blue, known as the 'Ankara' cat.

Another variety has a prolific long white coat, with a most distinctive auburn-coloured tail, ringed in light and dark shades. The head also bears auburn markings. The amber eyes are very large and lustrous, and the nose, ears and pads are of shell pink. Although it is commonly supposed that cats dislike water, these, even when young kittens, enjoy swimming both in fast-running streams and still water. Several pairs imported into Britain have proved to breed absolutely true, and there are now three generations of pure breeding. At the time of writing, recognition has not been given, but the following standard has been proposed, which may in time be accepted:

Proposed Standard

Colour:	The colour should be chalk-white with no trace of yellow. Auburn markings on face with white blaze. Ears should be white; nose tip, pads and inside ears should be a delicate shell-pink.	35
Condition:	Fur should be long, soft and silky to the roots. No woolly undercoat.	10
Head:	Short wedge; well-feathered large ears upright and set fairly close together; long nose.	25
Eyes:	Shape should be round, colour should be light amber, rims should be pink-skinned.	10
Body:	Long but sturdy, legs medium in length, neat round feet with well-tufted toes. Males should be particularly muscular on neck and shoulders.	10
Brush:	Full, medium length, auburn in colour with faint auburn rings in cats, more distinct ring markings in kittens.	10
		100

SHORT-HAIRED CATS

BRITISH

One colour: Black, White with orange eyes, White with blue eyes, British Blue Cream.

Two colours: Blue-Cream, Bi-coloured.

Three colours: Tortoiseshell.

Four colours: Tortoiseshell and White.

Tabby: Silver, Red Brown.

Any colours accepted: Manx,

Spotted cats, Mackerel, Tabbies, Any other Variety.

FOREIGN

Cream and seal brown: Siamese seal-pointed.

Glacial white and blue: Siamese, blue-pointed.

Ivory and chocolate: Siamese, chocolate-pointed.

Frosty white and lilac: Siamese, lilac-pointed, Tabby points and pale body: Siamese, tabby-pointed.

Reddish-gold and pale body: Siamese type red-pointed.

Tortie points and pale body: Siamese tortie-pointed.

Contrasting points, pale bodies Siamese type all dilutions.

One colour: Russian Blue, Burmese, Blue Burmese, Chest-

BREED NUMBERS

- nut Brown.
 Ticked: Abyssinian.
 All colours: Any other Variety,
14. White (Blue Eyes)
 - 14a. White (Orange Eyes)
 15. Black
 16. Blue British
 - 16a. Blue Russian
 17. Cream
 18. Silver Tabby
 19. Red Tabby
 20. Brown Tabby
 21. Tortoiseshell
 22. Tortoiseshell and white
 23. Abyssinian
 - 23a. Red Abyssinian
 24. Seal-pointed Siamese
 - 24a. Blue-pointed Siamese
 - 24b. Chocolate-pointed Siamese
 - 24c. Lilac-pointed Siamese
 25. Manx
 26. Any Other Variety
 27. Burmese
 - 27a. Blue Burmese
 28. Blue Cream
 29. Chestnut Brown Foreign
 30. Spotted
 31. Bi-coloured
 32. Tabby-pointed Siamese
 - 32a. Red-pointed Siamese
 - 32b. Tortie-pointed Siamese
 - 32c. All Dilutions Siamese
 33. Cornish Rex
 - 33a. Devon Rex

The majority of cats in this country, both pedigree and non-pedigree, are short-haired. The pedigree

are of the various breeds recognised by the Governing Council, and belong either to the 'British' or 'Foreign' varieties. The British cats should all conform to the general standard with regard to powerful bodies, short thick tails, and good broad heads, with slightly rounded ears, but with varying coat and eye colourings. They may be 'self' in colour, that is all white, blue, black, cream; or tabbies of silver, red and brown; or with two colours, such as the Blue-cream, or more, like the Tortoiseshells, and Tortoiseshell-and-white. The Manx is more British in type, but has the distinctive feature of complete absence of tail.

The Russian Blue, Siamese, Abyssinian and the Burmese are known as 'foreign' breeds, and differ greatly from the British in having long lithe bodies, long tapering tails and long well-proportioned heads. The coat colourings and eyes vary from the dark brown points, cream coats and vivid blue eyes of the Siamese to the lustrous blue coat and green eyes of the Russian.

The short-hairs do not require the constant grooming the long-hairs need, but they must be given daily grooming, and the ears inspected.

THE BRITISH SHORT-HAIRED CATS

It is quite erroneous to think that British cats are just particularly good specimens of the 'ordinary' house cats. They are pedigree in the sense that they have been bred from like parents and that the like ancestors of these parents were of good pedigree and sound breed for many generations.

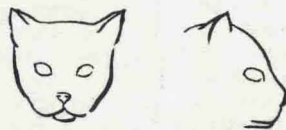
Anyone who owns a British cat and starts to breed them will have a delightful hobby, for these are some of the most intelligent and charming of creatures, true friends of the family, kindly disposed

to other animal inmates of the home and most attached to their owners. They make good show cats, seemingly quite unperturbed by the hustle and bustle of the shows and the change from their daily routine. They are graceful and active and take a great interest in everything about the house and garden, and are not so destructive to the furniture as are so many other breeds, as they like to do their claw sharpening out of doors and often have a favourite tree for this purpose. The British cat believes in much exercise to keep him healthy and his coat in lovely condition.

These cats have been known in Britain for generations. From far back in our history they have been the companions of man. They have bred together and interbred, but as they are of strong constitution this does not seem to have impaired their stamina, as in some varieties of the cat tribe.

The short coat is more easily kept in order than that of the long-haired breeds, although this does not mean that they can do without daily attention. A good hand grooming each day tones up the muscles and takes out the loose old hair, thus allowing the new growth to come in evenly. There should not be too much use of the comb, as this opens and softens the coat. The well-groomed short-haired cats are less liable to fur balls, that is, hair which accumulates in the stomach with the cats' continual washing and grooming of itself.

When buying a British cat it is desirable to get one with a pedigree of three generations of like-to-like—that is British to British bred without the introduction of any foreign breeding, which would give an elongated body, too long a head, and ears upright and inclined to points, instead of the round broad head with width between the ears, full well-developed cheeks, a short broad nose and good muzzle,



Head of British cat

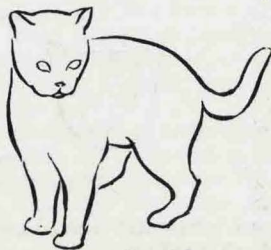
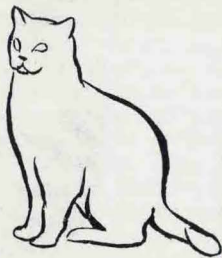
with neat small ears rounded at the top and not broad at the base.

There are eleven varieties of the British short-haired cat, if one includes the Manx, which is British in type rather than foreign. The most admired seems to be the Blue British, with the Silver Tabby coming a close second. The markings of these Silvers have improved wonderfully during the last few years.

It is very unwise to breed the British to a long-haired cat, as the length of coat is very difficult to breed out, and may occur in future generations. The coat must be short and close, not woolly and open. It must feel firm to the touch, and of good texture. The word 'hard' is sometimes used, and

this does not mean it should be harsh, but fine, close and truly short.

The type required for the British cat is the same for all varieties, a sturdy body of medium length, with full chest, on strong well-proportioned legs, with neat, well-rounded feet. The head should be round, wide between the ears, with well-developed cheeks and a short nose. The general standard is the same, with 50 points given for type, coat and condition, the other 50 being given for colours and eyes in the various breeds. The apportionment of these 50 marks for the colour of coat and eyes varies according to the breed.



Outline of British cat.

SHORT-HAIRED BREED No. 14.

The pure white colouring, with no trace of other colouring or markings, and the intense sapphire blue of the large round eyes, make a most attractive animal, and many people recently have been anxious to acquire one. Unfortunately there are very few being bred. This may be partly because of the deafness which seems to affect both long-haired and short-haired blue-eyed cats, and also because it is not always easy to breed Whites

WHITE (PLATE 16)

with the true blue eye colouring required. It is a strange fact that kittens born with any black hairs on their heads, even if only one or two, are unlikely to be deaf. These hairs usually disappear as the kittens grow older.

They are very clean cats, seeming to appreciate the fact that their coats call for constant grooming to present a really spotless appearance. For showing purposes there must be no yellow tinge to the coat, and white fuller's earth brushed well in and then completely out, may help to remove any small stains. I have seen a short-haired White which thoroughly enjoyed being bathed. He would sit in the sink being rubbed all over with a lather made from good quality soap flakes, patiently waiting for the rinsing water with a trace of blue in it, purring all the time he was being rubbed thoroughly dry. No water was allowed to get in his ears. Although some cats may not mind being bathed, others heartily dislike it, and it is not advocated as a general rule, as cats are very susceptible to catching cold.

The general standard required by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy is as given for all British cats, with the individual standard for colour and eyes as below:

Standard

		<i>Points</i>
Colour:	White to be pure, untinged with yellow.	25
Eyes:	Very deep sapphire blue.	25
		<hr/> 50 <hr/>

BREED No. 14a.

White with orange eyes is now a separate variety. The characteristics and standard is as for Breed No. 14, but the eye colour should be orange.

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 15.

It is to the short-haired black cats that most superstitions apply, as they were known in this country long before the long-hairs made their appearance, and even today many people will choose a black kitten because they think it is lucky. The cats depicted in the old prints of witches and black magic are usually long and slinky, with slanting green eyes, very different both in temperament and looks to the 'square' British Blacks.

Black cats are found in great numbers as household pets, but they may have green eyes and white hairs somewhere in their coats, and it is not appreciated how beautiful a black cat can be until one sees a pedigree British, with a shining jet black coat with no signs of rustiness, and lovely round orange or deep copper eyes. It is very difficult to breed a Black with absolutely sound coat colouring and not a white hair anywhere, although many conform in every way to the body and type standard required.

Standard

Points

Colour:	Jet black to roots, no rusty tinge, no white hairs anywhere.	25
Eyes:	Large, round and well-opened: Colour: deep copper or orange with no trace of green.	25
		50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 16.

BLUE BRITISH

(PLATE 25)

The Blue is the most popular of the British short-hairs, and a good specimen with a coat of even blue, no shadings and no white hairs, and good copper

BLACK

(PLATE 16)

or amber eye colour, is always much sought after. In the past, unfortunately, in an endeavour to perfect this breed, various out-crosses have been tried, with Blue long-hairs, Siamese and Russian Blues, and while some improvements may have been made, in some cases the type, eye colouring and length of coat have suffered. Serious efforts are now being made to breed true, with good results.

There are a few Blue British in Europe, but the French have a breed called the Chartreux, said to have been brought to France from South Africa by the monks of that order. They are very like British Blues, which may cause some confusion. Their standard calls for a coat of any shade of grey or greyish blue, with a head not quite so round, and with a very powerful jaw.

In addition to the general standard for the British short-haired breeds the following are required:

Standard

Points

Colour:	Light to medium blue, very level in colour and no tabby markings or shadings or white anywhere.	25
Eyes:	Large and full, copper, orange or yellow.	25
		50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 16a.

RUSSIAN BLUE

(PLATE 25)

This is one of the Foreign breeds of short-haired cats, very attractive to look at, with a soft close-lying coat of a seal-like appearance. It is thought that these cats came to Britain many years ago, being brought from Russia by sailors on cargo ships trading between Archangel and this country. They were known as the Archangel cats or the Blue

Foreign Type, and it was not until after the last war that the name Russian was adopted. It must be appreciated that the Russian Blues seen in Britain today are the result of many years of selective breeding, and that the name 'Russian', like 'Abys-sinian', does not imply country of origin.

They have slender lithe bodies, flat and narrow skulls with receding foreheads, and vivid green eyes, almond in shape, set rather wide apart. The faces on the graceful slender necks should be long, with large and pointed ears, wide at the base. There should be very little hair inside the ears. The colours of the coats vary from medium to dark blue and must be the same all over. The fine bones and slender well-proportioned bodies make these cats look extremely distinguished.

The hind legs of this breed are much longer than those of the British short-hairs. The dainty feet should be small and oval. In an endeavour to bring this breed to perfection, various out-breedings have been tried, but not always with great success, although matings with Blue-pointed Siamese have given some improvement.

Good Russian Blues have been bred in Denmark, and they are typical of the breed, with lustrous coats of good colour, well-shaped bodies, and excellent eye colour. Some have been sent to Sweden and exhibited there most successfully. It would be a good thing for British breeders if some of the Danish stock could be brought here and mated with the best of the breed, but there is the question of the six months' quarantine, which makes importation an expensive business. Also the long solitary confinement is a great trial to a cat.

The Russian Blue makes a hardy, affectionate and intelligent pet.

Standard

		Points
Colour:	Clear blue, even throughout, and in maturity free from tabby markings or shadings. Medium blue is preferred.	20
Coat and Condition:	Short, thick and very fine, standing up soft and silky like seal skin. Very different from any other breed. Coat is double so that it has a distinct silvery sheen. The texture and appearance of the coat is the truest criterion of the Russian Blue.	25
Body, Build and Tail:	Body long and graceful in outline and carriage. Medium strong bone. Tail fairly long and tapering.	25
Legs and Feet:	Legs long. Feet small and oval.	
Head and Ears:	Head short wedge, with flat skull; forehead and nose straight, forming an angle. Prominent whisker pads. Ears large and pointed, wide at base and set vertically to the head. Skin of ears thin and transparent, with very little inside furnishing.	15
Eyes:	Vivid green, set rather wide apart, almond in shape.	15
Faults:	White or tabby markings; cobby or heavy build; square head; yellow in eyes. Siamese type is undesirable.	

 100

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 17.

CREAM

(PLATE 28)

Although these charming cats are very rare, a few are now making their appearance on the show bench, and several breeders are doing much work to increase and improve the colour. The standard calls for a 'rich cream', but at present most of this variety are too 'hot' in colour and tend to show

bars and other markings. This may be due to the fact that many are Tortoiseshell bred. However, with the continued mating of Cream to Cream, in time these faults should be eliminated.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Rich cream, level in colour, free from bars, no signs of white anywhere.	35
Eyes: Copper or hazel.	15
	<hr/> 50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED NO. 18.

SILVER TABBY

(PLATES 22, 28)

Of the three short-haired tabby breeds recognised by the Governing Fancy, the Silver Tabby is the most popular. The black markings must be very distinct, with no brown or cream tinges, and there must be no breaks in the bands down the back. The body colour should be a pure silver, with no signs of brindling. The rings on the tail and legs must be equally distributed and as black as the other markings. To breed a cat to such an exacting standard is not easy, but several breeders are doing very good work in this direction. The body line and type is usually very good.

Standard

	Points
Markings: Dense black, not mixed with the ground colour, and quite distinct from it. Ground colour pure, clear silver, uniform throughout; no white anywhere.	50
Eyes: Round and well opened. Colour, green or hazel.	—
	<hr/> 50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED NO. 19.

RED TABBY

(PLATE 29)

A cat of this breed with the true Red ground colour and the darker red markings is truly lovely, but most difficult to produce. From this description it will be readily realised that for beauty it is far above the many ginger and sandy cats seen around the country in plenty, who are definitely not Red Tabbies.

The body colour must be a good deep colour of red, not a pale marmalade, and the markings must show up against this ground, being deeper in colour, and must also conform to the tabby pattern as required in the silver and brown tabbies. A cluster or star of white under the neck, on the chest, or between the legs low on the belly, is a most serious fault and no show specimen with this blemish should be passed by a judge. A white tip to the tail is also a bad fault.

There is a tendency to suppose that all Red Tabbies are males, but this is incorrect. The Reds can be both male and female, but unless both the parents have Red in their pedigrees, they may not breed true and may produce Tortoiseshell females and Red males.

Standard

	Points
Markings: Very dense and dark red, not mixed with the ground colour and quite distinct from it. Ground colour and markings to be as rich red as possible.	50
Eyes: Hazel or orange.	—
	<hr/> 50



Tabby cat showing markings

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 20.

BROWN TABBY

(PLATE 29)

Cats with stripes were depicted by the ancient Egyptians, and many of our domestic house pets are marked in some form or another. Some of the long-haired and short-haired Self pedigree cats produce offspring with shadowy tabby markings which disappear as the kittens grow older. In spite of all this, and the persistence of tabby markings appearing in breeds where they are not wanted, to breed a Brown Tabby short-haired cat with the dense black pattern without smudgings required by

the standard is quite an achievement. The markings must be carried through quite distinctly, without breaks in the back stripes, and there must be no brindling, or any signs of white, particularly on the chin and lip, where unfortunately it seems to appear quite frequently. The tail must be neatly ringed, also the legs, and the chest should have two necklaces. Although at the beginning of the century many were entered at shows, of recent years the pedigree breed has become rare, and often there are now only one or two entries.

The Brown Tabby should conform to the general standards of the British Short-hairs for the first 50 points, the other 50 being given entirely for the markings.

Standard

	Points
Markings: Very dense and black, not mixed with the ground colour and quite distinct from it. Ground colour rich sable or brown, uniform throughout, no white anywhere.	50
Eyes: Orange, hazel, deep yellow, or green.	—
	50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 21.

TORTOISESHELL

(PLATE 32)

The Tortoiseshell is a cat of exceptional beauty, the shortness of the coat making the coloured patches of black and red, both dark and light (the light merging into a deep cream), stand out brilliantly. The patching must be evenly distributed over the whole of the body, and the ears, face, legs, feet and tail must also have small patches of colour. A red blaze is liked on the face. Each patch must be quite distinct, with no overlapping of one of the

other colours, and there should be no white hairs. It is very rare to get a perfectly coloured cat without any brindling or tabby markings.

As with the long-haired Tortoiseshell, any males born are invariably sterile, and for breeding this interesting variety the stud used should be a Self of one of the coat colours. Even then the results are unpredictable, and it is most unlikely that there will be more than one or two of this breed in a litter, if any. The best Torties are born quite dark, the clear colourings only becoming apparent as the kittens grow.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Black and red (light and dark) equally balanced, and each colour to be as brilliant as possible; no white. Patches to be clear and defined, no blurring and no tabby or brindle markings. Legs, feet and ears to be as well patched as body and head. Red blaze desirable.	50
Eyes: Orange, copper or hazel.	—

50

SHORT-HAIRED

TORTOISESHELL-AND-WHITE

BREED NO. 22. (PLATE 32)
The Tortoiseshell-and-white cats are full of character, devoted to their owners and make excellent mothers. As with the Tortoiseshell, patches of red and black are required with the addition of white. The colours should be evenly distributed, but usually there is a tendency for the white to predominate, which from a show point of view is incorrect. A splash of white on the face is liked, and a little across the back. This breed is also

usually female and it is most interesting to see what colour kittens will be produced. There must be no blurring of the colours, and markings or brindling are definite faults. For this reason it is wiser to use a stud of one colour rather than one with stripes or markings, as they will probably be introduced into kittens, and will prove exceedingly difficult to breed out in future generations.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Black and red (dark and light) on white, equally balanced. Colours to be brilliant and absolutely free from brindling or tabby markings. The tri-colour patchings should cover the top of the head, ears and cheeks, back and tail and part of the flanks. Patches to be clear and defined. White blaze desirable.	50
All structural points to follow those given for Black Cats. No hard-and-fast rule can be laid down for the patching of Tortoiseshell-and-white cats and this must be left to individual judgment. White must never predominate; the reverse is preferable.	—
Eyes: Orange, copper or hazel.	—

50

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED NO. 23.

ABYSSINIAN

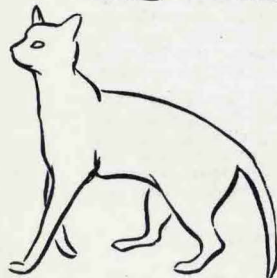
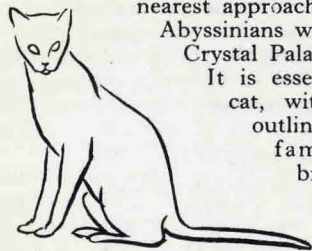
(PLATES 15, 17)

In 1869 a cat was brought to Britain from Abyssinia and from the description given it appears to have been the forerunner of the breed as it is known today. Experts agree that although the name 'Abyssinian' has been given to these cats, investigation has proved that it was not a breed as such in that country, and it must be accepted as a fact that these charming and intelligent animals are the

results of judicial breeding by British fanciers. They are very like those depicted in frescoes and models in ancient Egypt and are regarded as the nearest approach to their sacred cats.

Abyssinians were first shown at the Crystal Palace shows about 1883.

It is essentially a foreign-type cat, with the longish body outline and slender bones familiar with foreign breeds, but its coat is very different. The perfect Abyssinian should have a close short coat of ruddy brown, with two or three bands of black or brown tickings. The standard states 'no white', but it is extremely rare nowadays to see a cat without the white chin and lips, the white sometimes continuing down the front on to the



Outline of Foreign cat

stomach and even appearing as low down as between the hind legs. The sharp ears should not be as large as those of the Siamese, as although the head is required to be long and pointed it does not compare in length with that breed, and too big an ear would tend to give the head an unbalanced look.

From time to time, in pure-bred litters, kittens with reddish coats and pink pads have appeared. Except for colour, they were the same as the Abyssinians with ruddy brown coats, but not con-

forming to the set standard in colour were registered as 'Any Other Variety'. The copper-red coats appealed to many people and, by using strains known to have the necessary gene, endeavours were made to breed them. The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy decided that since they were pure-bred, differing in colour only, recognition and a breed number could be given. Being most distinctive in appearance they are finding ready buyers, both here and abroad.

The Abyssinian has a sweet disposition, takes readily to a lead, is a non-fussy feeder, and is becoming increasingly popular both as a show cat and a friendly and charming pet.

Standard

Colour and Type:

Ruddy brown, ticked with black or dark brown, double or treble ticking (i.e., two or three bands of colour on each hair) preferable to single ticking; no bars or other markings except that a dark spine line will not militate against an otherwise good specimen. Inside of forelegs and belly should be of a tint to harmonise well with the main colour, the preference being given to orange-brown.

Head and Ears:

Head long and pointed; ears sharp, comparatively large and broad at base.

Eyes:

Large, bright and expressive. Colour: green, yellow or hazel.

Tail:

Fairly long and tapering.

Feet:

Small, pads black; this colour also extending up the back of hind legs.

Coat:

Short, fine and close.

Size:

Never large or coarse.

The standard for Red Abyssinian is the same in every respect, except as follows:

Body colour is rich copper red, doubly or preferably treble-ticked with darker colours. Lack of distinct contrast in the ticking is a fault. The

richer the body colour the better. A pale colour is a bad fault.

The belly and inside of the legs should be deep apricot to harmonise. The tail tip is dark brown and this may extend along the tail as a line. A spine line of deeper colour is permissible. The nose leather is pink. Pads are pink, set in brown fur extending up back of legs. Eye colour as before.

Scale of Points

Colour:	Body colour	30	50
	Ticking	20	
Type:	Head and Ears	15	50
	Eyes	5	
	Body shape, tail, feet, coat and carriage	20	
	General condition	10	
		—	50
			100
			—

Note.—Absence of markings (i.e., bars on head, tail, face and chest) is very important.

Although imperfect cats may be awarded prizes according to the merit of the entry, no Abyssinian that has distinct bars and rings on legs and tail should be awarded a champion certificate. White chin to be considered undesirable, other white markings not permissible.

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. SEAL-POINTED

BREED NO. 24. (PLATE 17)

Of all the pedigree cats in Britain today the Siamese is the most popular breed. Its numbers are steadily increasing, and more are exhibited each year. The origin of the breed cannot be traced, although the head and body lines are very like those of the cats worshipped in Egypt. Apparently the first known

pair of these exotic cats was brought to England in 1884 by Mr. Gould, the Consul General in Bangkok, from the Royal Palace there. Similar cats had been guarded and treasured in the Royal palaces and temples for many years, and were considered of such value that few were ever given away, and then only as presents to one or two very honoured people. With their lovely body lines, colouring, high intelligence and air of mysticism, it is easy to believe that the Siamese we know today are descendants of the Royal Cats of Siam. Mrs. Vyvyan and Miss Forestier Walker were among the first to own Siamese in England, and it is from their famous Tiam-o-Shian that many of the present day cats are descended.

There are now three recognised varieties of Siamese. The most popular, and the original breed, is the Seal-pointed. It must be a well-balanced cat, the body being long and lithe, with a well-shaped back and haunches. The wedge-shaped head, set on an elegant neck, should be correspondingly long, and of good proportions. The rather large ears must be set well apart, standing at an angle conforming to the shape of the head, making a perfect wedge. The face is spoilt if the lines do not come down in a straight line to the muzzle. No denting in at the line should be seen or felt, as this gives a pinched look, and is a fault. The legs should be of fine bone and the feet delicate and oval in shape. The toes or any part of a toe must not be white. This is a very bad fault in the breed and automatically disqualifies an exhibit. The hind legs are required to be slightly longer than the front, making the body slope up from the head and neck to the hind-quarters. The balance should be made up with the long slim tail, tapering to a fine point. A slight kink at the extremity which cannot be seen but



Head of Siamese cat

merely felt, is permissible, and many people like this. The tail must not be too thick at the root, as this spoils the whole overall type of this elegant animal. A heavy Siamese is wrong. It is essentially a cat of long, flowing lines and grace of form.



Tail of British cat



Tail of Siamese cat

The mask, ears, legs, feet and tail should be a seal brown, without brindling. The mask in adults is connected by tracings with the ears, but in kittens this does not come until they are almost grown up. The oriental-shaped eyes must be a clear brilliant blue. There must be no squint, as this is a definite fault. Occasionally a cat when being shown may develop a slight squint through nerves, which may vanish when the cat has had a chance to settle down in its pen, but if it does persist, this must be considered against the exhibit. The lovely blue eye colouring with the pale cream body colour and dark points is one of the greatest attractions in the make-up of the Siamese. The cream should gradually shade into a warm pale fawn on the back. The underneath must also be a pale cream; often there is a brown spot, referred to as a 'belly spot', sometimes large, sometimes small. This does not disqualify an exhibit from being shown in Britain or in Europe, but is considered as a fault. The close-lying coat should be short and fine, but the coat of a Siamese kept in an outdoor run may thicken and coarsen in cold weather.

Brindling in the points is a fault, but is very often seasonal, appearing after a very hot summer, or when a cat is off-colour, and nearly always after an illness. A breeder is very disappointed when this brindling appears, as an excellent cat may often be placed out of the winning three. Light paws and chins are also faults. Siamese tend to darken in colour with age, although some may keep their lovely pale coats until they are quite old.

Siamese love companionship and fret if left alone, being very attached to their owners. If a cat has to be confined outside it is kinder to allow another one to live with it. They need the company of

humans even more than other breeds, and seem to understand all that is said to them. They should not be over-fed. Many Siamese cannot take milk, but others may show no ill-effects if given milk sparingly. The kittens do not seem to be able to take it as well as those of other varieties, and if it causes diarrhoea it should be stopped. Fresh water should always be put down daily for drinking. Siamese love plenty of toys with which to play, and make lively, alert and highly intelligent pets. They take readily to leads, and may be sometimes seen accompanying their owners on walks in parks and open spaces. They are naturally prolific breeders, coming into season at an early age, and generally having five or six kittens at a time. They are quite persistent in making their wants known, having a loud and distinctive cry, quite different from that of Persians. The cries of some calling queens may be quite raucous. The kittens are nearly white when born. The points do not begin to show until after the first week or so and their real seal brown colouring may not be reached until a cat is about a year old.

The Siamese Cat Club was founded in 1901, and has done substantial work in improving the breed in every way, as may be seen by the excellent standard shown by some cats today.

Standard

Shape
(Body and
Tail):

Medium size, body long and svelte, legs proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than the front ones, feet small and oval, tail long and tapering (straight or slightly kinked at the extremity). The body, legs, feet, head and tail all in proportion, giving the whole a well balanced appearance.

Head and
Ears:

Head long and well proportioned, with width

between the eyes, narrowing in perfectly straight lines to a fine muzzle. Ears rather large and pricked, wide at the base.

Eyes
(Colour and
Shape):

Clear, brilliant deep blue. Shape Oriental and slanting towards the nose. No squint.

Body
Colour:

Cream, shading gradually into pale warm fawn on the back. Kittens paler in colour.

Points:

Mask, ears, legs, feet and tail dense and clearly-defined seal brown. Mask complete and (except in kittens) connected by tracing with the ears.

Coat:

Very short and fine in texture, glossy and close-lying.

Scale of Points

Type and
Shape:

Head	15	
Ears	5	
Eyes	5	25
Body	15	
Legs and Paws	5	
Tail	5	25

Colour:

Eyes	15	
Points	10	
Body Colour	10	35

Texture of Coat

10

Condition

5

15

100

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. BLUE-POINTED

BREED No. 24a.

(PLATE 20)

Many of the remarks made regarding the Seal-pointed Siamese are also applicable to the Blue-

points. These are also becoming quite popular, and are most attractive, with glacial white body colouring and blue points. There are a few exceptionally good in type and body shape being shown, but as a general rule the body is inclined to be too heavy and the bone not as fine as that of the Seal-points. The colour too is not always all that could be desired. The eyes must be Oriental in shape and the colour a clear vivid blue. The blue of the points, that is the ears, mask, legs and tail, should all be of the same colouring, and the ears not a darker shade as often happens. A close coat of finest texture is required.

Standard

The Standard is as for Seal-points, with these exceptions:

- Colour: Points blue, the ears, mask, legs, paws and tail to be the same colour; the ears should not be darker than the other points.
- Eyes: Clear bright vivid blue.
- Body: Body colour glacial white, shading gradually into blue on back, the same cold tone as the points but of a lighter shade.

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. CHOCOLATE-POINTED

BREED No. 24b.

(PLATE 18)

Although the chocolate colouring was known in the earlier days of the Siamese as being quite distinct from that of the Seal-point, the Chocolate-point was not recognised as a separate breed until comparatively recently, and there are still very few about. The type of those shown is usually very good. The body should be an ivory colour all over, shading into the milk chocolate colouring of the points. The general comments for the Seal-pointed Siamese also apply to this breed.

Standard

The Standard is the same as for Seal-points with the following exceptions:

- Colour: Points milk chocolate, the ears, mask, legs, paws and tail to be the same colour; the ears should not be darker than the other points.
- Eyes: Clear bright vivid blue.
- Body: Ivory colour all over. Shading, if at all, to be to colour of points.

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. LILAC-POINTED

BREED No. 24c.

(PLATE 19)

In addition to the three varieties already described, another delightful breed of Siamese has now been recognised by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. These are the delicately coloured Lilac-points, already known as Frost-points in the U.S.A.

They are not experimentally bred cats, but may appear in a litter where the parents carry both chocolate and blue factors. The first born in England were in a litter of Blue-points from two Blue-point parents. Apparently both the sire and dam carried the necessary chocolate factor to produce kittens with these colour points. The body lines and type are the same as for the other Siamese, but the coat is almost white and does not appear to darken with age. The eyes are usually a very vivid blue. The tip of the nose is mauve, while the points are pinkish grey, and the pads pink.

Lilac-points breed one hundred per cent true to colour and are now appearing at Cat Shows in greater numbers.

Standard

Shape (Body and Tail): Medium in size, body long and svelte; legs

proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than the front ones. Feet small, slim and oval. Tail long and tapering (either straight or slightly kinked at the extremity). The body, legs, feet, head and tail all in proportion, giving the whole a well-balanced appearance.

Head and

Ears: Head long and well proportioned, with width between the eyes, narrowing in perfectly straight lines to a fine muzzle, giving the impression of a marten face. Ears rather large and pricked, wide at the base.

Eyes

(Colour and

Shape): Clear, light but vivid blue. Shape Oriental and slanting towards the nose. No tendency to squint.

Body

Colour: Off-white (Magnolia), shading, if any, to tone with points. Kittens paler in colour. Nose leather and pads faded lilac.

Points: Pinkish-grey colour.

Coat: Very short and fine in texture, glossy and close-lying.

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. TABBY-POINTED

BREED No. 32.

(PLATE 30)

Known for a number of years as Shadow-pointed or Lynx-pointed, this attractive variety has now been granted recognition under the name of Tabby-pointed. It differs from all other Siamese in that striped markings of a distinctive silver colour replace the more or less solid colour points. The general body colour should be pale cream and free from markings. The type is usually good, and its graceful appearance has caught the public's fancy, the kittens being much in demand.

Standard

Shape

(Body and

Tail): Medium in size, body long and svelte, legs propor-

tionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than the front ones. Feet small and oval. Tail long and tapering (either straight or slightly kinked at the extremity). Body, legs, feet, head and tail all in proportion, giving the whole a well-balanced appearance.

Head and

Ears: Head long and well proportioned, with width between the eyes, narrowing in perfectly straight lines to a fine muzzle, giving the impression of a marten face. Ears rather large and pricked, wide at the base.

Eyes

(Colour and

Shape): Clear, brilliant blue. Oriental in shape and slanting towards the nose. No tendency to squint.

Body

Colour: Cream, shading (tending to be intermittent) into a warmer colour on the back. Kittens paler in colour.

Points: Mask, ears, legs, feet and tail tabby. Tail to be neatly ringed. Ears solid, no stripes. 'Thumb mark' on ear.

Coat: Very short and fine in texture, glossy and close-lying.

SHORT-HAIRED

RED-POINT

BREED No. 32a.

(SIAMESE TYPE)

(PLATE 19)

Some years ago, the first Red-point appeared in England and attracted much interest. Experiments were carried out, during the course of which both Tortoiseshell and Red-points were bred. The red in the points is a 'pure' colour and a Red-point mated to a Red-point will give only kittens with those coloured points. Many are of good type, but have pale gold points instead of red.

Faults are a striped tail and tabby markings on the face. The body colour should be white, shading to apricot on the back. The blue eye-colouring is usually good, and contrasts beautifully with the points. The recently recognised standard is as follows:

Standard

Type: As for Seal-point Siamese. A cat of medium size, virile and muscular, but dainty in appearance.

Head and Ears: Head wide at the top and tapering to a pointed, clearly defined nose. A strong chin. Ears large, wide at the base, but pricked.

Eyes: (Colour and Shape): Oriental in shape, slanting towards the nose. No squint. Bright vivid blue.

Body and Tail: Body long and svelte. Neck long and graceful but strong. Legs long and slim, hind legs higher than the front. Feet small and oval in shape. Tail long and tapering, straight or slightly kinked at the extremity.

Body Colour: White, shading, if any, to apricot on the back. Kittens paler. Nose leather pink.

Points: Ears, mask, legs, feet and tail bright reddish-gold.

Coat: Short, fine silky hair, glossy and close-lying.

SHORT-HAIRED

SIAMESE. TORTIE-POINT

BREED No. 32b.

(PLATE 26)

Another newly recognised variety with Siamese type and characteristics. The colour is best seen on the ears. The feet and legs are marbled, and the colours are quite distinct. Will be invariably female.

Standard

Shape (Body and Tail): Medium in size, body long and svelte; legs proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than the front ones. Feet small and oval. Tail long and tapering (either straight or slightly kinked at the extremity). The body, legs, feet, head and tail all in proportion, giving the whole a well-balanced appearance.

Eyes (Colour and Shape): Bright vivid blue. Shape Oriental and slanting towards the nose. No tendency to squint.

Body Colour: Cream, shading gradually into a warmer colour on the back. Kittens paler in colour.

Points: Mask, ears, legs, feet and tail seal-brown and red or chocolate and red, equally balanced, and each colour to be as brilliant as possible; no white. Patches to be clear and defined; no blurring and no tabby or brindle markings.

Coat: Very short and fine in texture, glossy and close-lying.

SHORT-HAIRED

ALL DILUTIONS

BREED No. 32c.

Readers may be a little puzzled by the breed referred to as 'All Dilutions'. These are variations of point colours in cats with Siamese type. They are not yet recognised, but at the moment, there are four closely allied to the red-points.* There are no set standards, but the following descriptions may help:

Standard

1. Cream Points: Colour is between rich Devon cream and pale sand. The colour is best seen on the ears.

2. Chocolate-cream Points: The dilution factor responsible for the chocolate shading also affects the mottling, which is cream and not red. The colours should be distinct.

3. Blue-cream Points: The body colour is warmer than that of the Blue-point Siamese. The dilution factor causing the blueness also produces cream colouring, blending with the blue to produce a haziness or mistiness of colour in the points.

4. Lilac-cream

Points: As described for Blue-cream points, but with a lilac base that makes the colouring so pale as to be almost just a tinting.

No red can be seen in these four types except in the diluted form i.e. cream and pale patches on the legs and feet.

**No challenge certificates may be given for these varieties.*

SHORT-HAIRED

MANX

BREED No. 25.

(PLATE 20)

The tail-less cat, or 'Rumpy' as it is often called, from the Isle of Man, is a cat on its own. Whilst having the same main characteristics as the varieties classified as the British Short-hairs, the Manx must be quite definitely without a tail; that is, where the tail should start there should be a decided hollow and no trace of a rudimentary tail. Cats without tails are also known in Japan and Malaya. Legend has it that the first tail-less cats appeared on the Isle of Man after the wreck of a galleon from the Spanish Armada close to the coast, but no actual proof of this can be traced. Another legend is that warriors fighting the Irish who invaded the Isle of Man took to killing the cats to use their beautifully bushy tails to decorate their helmets, in imitation of the invaders, who wore plumes in theirs. Tired of having her kittens killed for their tails, one wise old female cat went to the top of the highest mountain to have her next litter, and shortly after their birth she bit off the tails, thus thwarting the warriors. The females of each succeeding generation were told the secret and in time all the cats were born without tails, and the Manx cats became an established breed.

It is quite difficult to breed Manx true; if two Manx

cats are mated together they may produce kittens with tails, kittens with stumps and kittens without tails. A continuance of breeding Manx to Manx seems to produce a lethal factor with the kittens dying before or shortly after birth. Taillessness, depth of flank and high back legs help to give this breed its characteristic 'rabbity' gait which is more of a hop than a walk. Roundness of the rump is essential for a good show specimen, with very high hindquarters and a short back. To find out if a cat is a true tail-less one, it is possible to place the blunt end of the thumb into the recess or hollow at the end of the backbone, where other cats would have the beginning of their tails. The vertebrae end there and do not continue down the tail as with all the other breeds, where the tail is the continuation of the backbone and can be clearly felt as the hand travels down the back and along the tail. Although other cats utilise their tails when jumping from a height, the Manx seems to be able to jump just as well without one.

The Manx should have a 'double' coat, the top coat being soft and open with a thick undercoat, but many Manx cats shown today seem to fail on this point. All colours and markings are accepted for the breed, but it is essential that the coat is short, and no long-haired specimen may be considered a real Manx. The head should be large and round with broad cheeks, with the nose slightly longer than that of the normal British cat. The ears must be wide at the base and slightly pointed at the ends, not rounded as in the British type.

Manx make very intelligent and amusing pets. They are certainly different and most distinctive-looking.

Standard

Taillessness, height of hindquarters, shortness of back and

depth of flank are essentials. The coat must be 'double', soft and open like that of a rabbit, with a soft, thick undercoat. Great attention should be paid to roundness of rump—as round as an orange being the ideal.

Scale of Points

	<i>Points</i>
Tail-lessness	15
Height of hindquarters	15
Shortness of back	15
Roundness of rump	10
Depth of flank	10
Double coat	10
Head and ears	10
Colour and markings	5
Eyes	5
Condition	5
	<hr/>
	100
	<hr/>

Tail-lessness must be absolute in a show specimen. There should be a decided hollow at the end of the backbone, where in the ordinary cat the tail would begin. The hindquarters in a Manx cannot be too high, and the back cannot be too short, as there must be great depth of flank. The head is round and large, but it is not a snubby or Persian type. The nose is longish, but the cheeks being very prominent do away with any snipiness, which is a bad fault. The ears are rather wide at base, tapering slightly off to a point. Eye colour is of very secondary consideration, and must only be taken into account when all other points are equal. When that is so, it follows the ideal for the British cats, namely, blue for Whites and amber or orange for Blacks, Oranges, Tortoiseshells, etc. All colours of Manx are recognised, and here again, as in eye-colour, marking and colour must only be taken into account when all other points are equal. Finally gait, arising from the combination referred

to in the opening sentence of the official Standard, is of primary importance.

SHORT-HAIRED

ANY OTHER VARIETY

BREED NO. 26.

(PLATES 21, 22)

As with the long-haired 'Any other colour' class, short-haired cats with different colourings, markings and types that do not comply with the standards required for any of the recognised breeds, may be registered as 'Any other variety'. A new variety that is being bred as a result of selective breeding may be registered and shown as such, and may in time, if breeding true, receive recognition. Cats with tabby and white coats are samples of the kind that appear as 'Any other variety'.

Mackerel-striped Tabby cats are also shown under 'Any other variety'. These have most attractive markings, and may be of any colouring. The more stripes there are the better, and once I had an excellent specimen with a pale silver background and innumerable black stripes and deep sea-green eyes, which was very beautiful to see. Although many pets have the desired markings, few of this type seem to appear at the shows.

The Governing Council's standards are as follows:

Mackerel-striped Tabby Cats

	<i>Points</i>
Markings: As dense as possible, distinct from ground colour. Rings as narrow and numerous as possible, and running vertically from the spine towards the ground.	50
	<hr/>
	50
	<hr/>

In all tabby cats, the tails must be neatly ringed and chest rings or ring most desirable; in fact, almost essential.

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 30.

First shown in the 1880s, the coat pattern is typical of the oldest domestic cats known. The type is as for the other British short-hairs. Some very good examples have appeared on the show bench recently, and I am glad that this very old breed is being revived.

The Governing Council gives the following in its standards:

In judging spotted cats the first desideratum is good and clear spottings, all other properties being only of secondary importance. Turning, for example to the Spotted Wild cats, in which this form of colouration reaches its acme, we find there are various kind of spotting: some have a great many small spots, others fewer and larger; some have round spots, some oblong and some rosette-shaped. Any of these markings may be of equal merit, but the spots, however shaped or placed, shall be distinct, and not running into each other. They may be of any colour as suitable to the ground colouration. The fewer markings in the nature of stripes, even on the legs and chest, the better. The colour of eyes to conform to coat colour.

Faults: Stripes and bars (except on face and head). Judging by points, a value of 50 should be allotted to spotting, after which the ordinary British Short-haired cat properties may be valued at the remaining 50 points.

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 31.

First exhibited in the 1880s, and having been exhibited for many years under 'Any other variety', this variety has recently been given a breed number. The exacting standard is the same as that required for the Long-hairs, being very difficult to produce. They will be most useful in the breeding of Tortoise-

SPOTTED CATS

shells and Tortie-and-whites, where no male of those breeds is available. The type must be British; that is a round head, a powerful body, and short thick tail.

Standard

	Points
Colour: Black and white; blue and white; orange and white; cream and white. No tabby shadings in the self-coloured portion.	20
Markings: The self colour, i.e., black, blue, cream or orange, to start immediately behind the shoulders, round the legs, leaving the hind feet white. Ears and mask of face also self-coloured. White shoulders, neck, forelegs and feet, chin, lips and blaze up face and over top of head, joining or running into the white at back of skull, thus dividing the mask exactly in half. The markings to follow those of a Dutch-marked rabbit as closely as possible.	25
Eyes: Copper or amber.	5
The remaining points to be apportioned according to the Standard laid down for all British short-haired cats.	50
	100

SHORT-HAIRED

BREED No. 27.

BURMESE

(PLATE 21)

In 1930, a female brown foreign-type cat was taken from Burma to North America. This cat was most attractive and much admired. As no brown male was available, she was mated to a Siamese and from the resultant litter and carefully selected breeding, the Burmese cat became a recognised breed in the United States of America.

In 1947 a breeder imported from an American cattery the first pair seen in Britain. The queen came over already mated, but unfortunately the

long period of quarantine told on her health, and all the kittens died. In 1953 another male called Cas Gatos De Foong was imported from the United States, and these cats are the foundation of the breed in Britain. The first queen did not live long, but left progeny which has been of the highest value to fanciers. Since 1952 the Burmese have had a breed number, and that their popularity is rapidly increasing may be judged by the number exhibited at shows today. In 1957 an outstanding male was imported from the United States, Champion Darsham Kudiram, and this is proving a great asset in the breed by bringing new strains into the pedigrees, and helping to correct many faults.

The colour of the Burmese is most important. In maturity the body should be a solid colour of rich dark brown, shading to slightly lighter on the chest and belly.

The coat should shine as though polished. There must be no white or tabby markings. In young cats slight tabby markings are sometimes seen on flanks and tail and legs, but more often than not these disappear as the cat grows older.

The head should be wedge-shaped, not quite so long as that of the Siamese. The chin must be firm. Compared again with the Siamese, the muzzle is slightly blunter and the ears less prominent. The long, svelte body should be dainty, neat and firm, with a fine close-lying glossy coat. The long tail is thin and tapering to a point, although it may not be quite as whip-like as that of the Siamese. A slight kink is permissible, but only at the very tip. The eye colour is that slightly greenish shade of yellow known as Chartreuse, and Oriental-shaped eyes of this colour look really beautiful in the dark seal-brown face.

Burmese make enchanting pets. They are one of

the friendliest of the breeds of cats, very placid, and rarely suffer from show-nerves. In fact, at shows, they seem to go all out to attract the judges' attention. They require very little show preparation, as a Burmese cat's coat when in top condition will literally shine with health.

The kittens are coffee-coloured when born, and, although on the small side, become very active at an early age. They are most appealing and love to be noticed by all visitors. The coat colouring gradually darkens and faint points may be seen. It is not until the age of twelve months or more that the true seal brown colour is reached and, although almost indistinguishable, the faint points and mask, as in the Siamese, may still be visible in the adult cat.

Because of their excellent quality British-bred Burmese are now exported to many countries abroad.

Standard

Points

Body Colour:

In full maturity the body should be a solid colour of rich dark seal brown shading to slightly lighter on chest and belly. No white or tabby markings. Ears, mask and points only slightly darker than back coat colour. Awards should be withheld from mature cats showing decided contrast between coat colour and points.

In kittens and young cats all colours may be slightly lighter with greater contrast allowed between coat colour, mask and points. Kittens generally even lighter.

25

Body, Shape and Tail:

The body should be medium in size, dainty, long and svelte. Neck long and slender, legs proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than front,

	feet small and oval in shape. Tail long and tapering to a point. A slight kink at the extreme tip only is permissible.	25
Head and Ears:	Head short wedge with slight rounding on top. Ears pricked, relatively large and wide at base.	15
Eyes:	Yellow. Almond in shape and slanting towards the nose in true Oriental fashion. Blue eyes and squints inadmissible.	15
Coat:	Glossy, short, fine in texture and lying close to the body.	10
Condition:	Excellent physical condition, not fat, inclined to muscle.	10
		100

Note.—It is recommended that only cats of true Burmese parentage be eligible for Championship status.

SHORT-HAIRED BREED No. 27a.

BLUE BURMESE

From one particular line of breeding, Blue Burmese began to appear in many litters, and this most attractive variety is now recognised. In fact it is striding ahead in popularity, being shown in numbers which may rival those of the Brown. Type is as for the Brown, the Blue differing in colour only, which should be bluish grey.

Standard

Points

Body Colour:	The body colour of the adult should be predominately bluish grey, with a little fawn, darker on the back, shading to pale fawn or grey on the belly, the overall effect being a warm colour, with a silver sheen to the coat. The tail the same colour as the back, no white or tabby
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	markings. Ears, mask and feet shading to silver grey. Kittens lighter in colour, with more fawn in the coat.	25
Body Shape and Tail:	The body should be medium in size, dainty, long and svelte. Neck long and slender, legs proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than front, feet small and oval in shape. Tail long and tapering to a point. A slight kink at extreme tip only is permissible.	25
Head and Ears:	Head, short wedge with slight rounding on top. Ears pricked, relatively large and wide at base.	15
Eyes:	Yellowish green. Almond in shape and slanting towards the nose in true Oriental fashion. Blue eyes and squints inadmissible.	15
Coat:	Fine, glossy, short and lying close to the body.	10
Condition:	Excellent physical condition, not fat, inclined to muscle.	10
		100

SHORT-HAIRED BREED No. 28.

BLUE-CREAM (PLATE 24)

This is one of the latest British short-hair breeds to be accepted by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, and, like the long-haired variety, the coat is required to be of blue and cream softly intermingled, and there must be no patching. These cats are invariably females, and judicial cross-breeding is necessary to endeavour to produce further Blue-creams.

Standard

Type:	Body, shape, head and eyes, as for the Blue British cats.
Eyes:	Copper, orange or yellow (not green).

Coat: Colours to be softly mingled, not patched, short and fine in texture.

Scale of Points

Type, as for British cats	40
Colour, mingling	35
Eyes	20
Condition	5
	<hr/>
	100
	<hr/>

SHORT-HAIRED

CHESTNUT BROWN FOREIGN

BREED No. 29. (PLATE 24)

One of the aims in every branch of the livestock fancy is to produce as many different but distinctive colour variations as possible.

In the Cat Fancy, several new colour breeds or varieties of breed have been produced within recent times, one of which is the Chestnut Brown (Foreign), once called Havana. This has just received recognition, and the correct wording of the standard of points is awaited. In future it will have its own breed class, instead of being shown under 'Any other variety'.

The Chestnut Brown is purely 'self' in colour all over, the colour being similar to that displayed at the extremities of the points of the Siamese chocolate-pointed cat. It has also been referred to as tobacco colour, mahogany or chestnut, and is quite different in appearance from the brown coat of the Burmese cat. In the latter, the points are slightly darker in colour than the rest of the body, although this is not nearly so pronounced as in the Siamese.

The kittens are born the same colour as they will remain when fully grown up, and they show no shading to a darker or lighter colour on any part of their body, except perhaps during the summer

moult when the old coat sometimes appears rusty. The same is observed in Blacks and Blues, whose coat colour is also adversely affected by sunlight. The nose, lips and whiskers are brown like the coats, but the pads are a pinkish shade of brown.

Standard

Chestnut Brown Foreign Short-haired cats are of foreign type. They are fine in bone, lithe and sinuous and of graceful proportions. The coat is a rich brown, even and sound; whiskers and nose to be of the same colour as the coat. The pads of the feet are a pinkish shade. The eyes are green.

Coat: Any shade of rich chestnut brown, short and glossy, even and sound throughout.

Head and

Ears: Head long and well-proportioned, narrowing to a fine muzzle. Ears large and well pricked, wide at the base with good width between.

Body, Legs

and Tail: Body long, lithe and well muscled, graceful in outline. Legs slim and dainty, hind legs slightly higher than front legs. Paws oval and neat. Long whip tail, no kink.

Eyes: Slanting and oriental in shape. Decidedly green in colour.

Scale of Points

Coat	30
Head	15
Body	15
Legs	15
Tail	5
Eyes	10
Condition	10
	<hr/>
	100
	<hr/>

Faults: Tabby or other markings, dark points, white spots or hairs. Cobby shape, round head, short thick or kinked tail.

Note:—Kittens frequently show tabby 'ghost'

markings when changing coat. This should not be held against an otherwise good kitten exhibit.

SHORT-HAIRED REX-COATED CATS BREED NOS. 33 and 33a. (PLATE 23)

Until recently, only two types of coat have been known in cats: long-hair and short-hair. In both cases the individual hairs are straight, but recently cats with coats of a third type have been exhibited. The hairs of these coats are waved and are referred to as 'rex'.

The rex coat is shorter than the short-haired type, and feels much finer and silkier. The coat is dense, and no guard hairs are visible, these being shortened to just below the top level of the coat. It is, of course, a mutation. The rex-coated rabbits have no wave in their coats, even though evolved from waved stock, and if desired the wave in the rex coat of the cat could be eliminated to give the same attractive coat.

Rex hair type can be transferred to any breed, colour or type of cat. I saw a Blue Persian in the 1940's with a tightly waved coat. Rex cats are often referred to by the public as 'poodle' cats.

The kittens are curly from birth, with coat of any known colour. They seem hardy, intelligent and affectionate. They are easily trained and enjoy walking on a lead.

Owing to the interest shown, there has been a rapid increase in the number of breeders of the Rex cats, with many kittens being exported all over the world.

They have now been recognised, but because there are two types, known as Cornish Rex and Devon Rex, after the counties where the first-known Rex were born, they have been given two standards.

Standard CORNISH REX BREED No. 33.

		Points
Coat:	Dense, very short and fine, forming waves over the entire body, with the exception of the head, legs and paws, where the coat should resemble dense short plush. Whiskers and eyebrows to be crinkled. All recognised coat colours and coat patterns acceptable.	50
Head:	Medium to long, well proportioned and narrowing to a strong chin. The skull to be flat. In profile a straight line is to be seen from the centre of forehead to nose end.	5
Eyes:	Almond shape, medium size, colour in keeping with coat colour and coat pattern.	5
Ears:	Large, set rather high on head, wide at base, tapering to rounded tops, well covered with fine fur.	10
Body:	Body long and slender, hard and muscular, medium in size, legs long and fine giving an overall appearance of being high on the legs. Paws small and oval. Neck slender.	25
Tail:	Long, fine and whiplike.	5
Faults:	British type head, cobby body, small ears, lack of firm muscles. Short tail, white mis-markings.	100
Note:	If all other points are equal preference should be given to the cat whose coat does not show white hairs or markings other than those under coat.	

DEVON REX BREED No. 33a.

		Points
Coat:	Dense, very short and fine, forming waves, over the entire body with the exception of the head, legs and paws, where the coat should resemble dense short plush. Whiskers and eyebrows to be crinkled. All recognised coat colours and coat patterns acceptable.	45
Head:	Face to be full-cheeked with considerable width between the eyes. Medium wedge	

	with whisker break. Short muzzle. Nose with a definite stop in profile. Forehead to slope back to a flat skull.	10
Eyes:	Rather large. Almond-shaped with outer corners pointing to outer edges of ears. Colour in keeping with coat colour and coat pattern, or chartreuse-green or yellow.	5
Ears:	Large, set rather low, great width at base gradually tapering to rounded tops. Well covered. Kittens may have ear muffs.	10
Body:	Body long and slender, hard and muscular, medium in size. Legs long and fine, giving an overall appearance of being high on the legs. Paws small and oval. Neck slender.	25
Tail:	Long, fine and whiplike.	5
		100
Faults:	British type head, cobby body, small ears. Lack of firm muscles. Short tail. White mis-markings. Bareness to be considered a fault, but cats should not be penalised too heavily for this for the time being.	
Note:	If all other points are equal, preference should be given to the cat whose coat does not show white hairs or markings other than those under coat.	

FOREIGN WHITE CAT

A new breed with a provisional standard, having Siamese type and golden or blue eyes. White cats with foreign type have appeared in litters of British cats several times over the years, and were much admired. It was only a few years ago that the possibility of creating such a breed was appreciated, and several breeders are now working hard to produce cats in accordance with the provisional standard. They hope for recognition in due course.

Proposed Standard

Type: The Foreign White cat should be a well-balanced

Colour:	animal of foreign type. It should be fine in bone, lithe and sinuous and of graceful proportions. The coat should be pure white, untinged with yellow. Paws and nose leather should be pink.
Head and Ears:	Head and profile long, well proportioned and wedge-shaped, neither round nor pointed, narrowing to a fine muzzle. Ears large and pricked, wide at the base with good width between. Expression should be alert and intelligent.
Eyes:	Slanting and Oriental in shape. Golden yellow or bright blue in colour. No tendency to squint.
Body:	Medium in size, long and svelte. Well muscled and graceful in outline. Legs proportionately slim, hind legs slightly higher than the front. Feet small and oval.
Tail:	Long and tapering. No kink.
Coat and Condition:	Coat short fine, glossy and close-lying. Even and sound throughout. Excellent physical condition. Not fat, inclined to muscle.
Faults:	Cobby shape, round head, short, thick or kinked tail. Thick upstanding coat. Green, grey or odd eyes. Kittens sometimes show a few black hairs on the head before changing coat. This should not be held against an otherwise good exhibit.

HOUSE PETS AND WORKING CATS

It has been stated elsewhere in this book that the majority of the cats in Britain are the household pets, otherwise mongrels. The result of free matings for centuries, they conform to no special standards. The fur may be long, short or neither one nor the other. The coats are of many colours and may be blotched, striped or patched or of one colour only. Ginger tabbies are quite common and must not be confused with the red pedigree cats which are of a much deeper and richer shade. Black short-hairs are to be found in plenty, but generally they have white hairs somewhere in their fur. The eye colourings are frequently green or yellow and the noses long. Alert and intelligent,

beautiful to their owners, they are much adored pets. Included in the mongrels are the many 'working' cats to be found in factories, farms, docks, warehouses, office blocks and on ships, as even with the various pest control and rodent trapping officials, the cat's usefulness in destroying rats and mice cannot be overlooked. Many of these cats are 'on the strength' and have a weekly allowance for the cost of their food, as it is appreciated that they cannot live on vermin alone. There are also thousands of strays in this country. Living in ruins or derelict houses or roaming the countryside, many of these do a useful job in keeping down the vermin. Many are unwanted cats which have been turned out of their homes by thoughtless owners because they have been found to be females or for various other reasons, and the animal societies play their part in endeavouring to keep the numbers down, either by finding homes after neutering, or by painlessly destroying them.

CATS IN THE COMMONWEALTH

The history of the domestic cat in most of the Commonwealth countries dates from the time of the first European settlers, who took with them their household pets. Scientific breeding developed later, and many of these countries now have flourishing Cat Societies.

CANADA

Early French missionaries seem to have been the first people to bring cats to the North American continent. Letters from one mention that he had given a cat to a Huron Indian. Then every wagon train travelling to the West in the early days brought its cats. The spreading out of civilisation over the vast woodland and prairies has been made possible by this much abused and misunderstood animal. Granaries had to be protected from mice, or man would have starved in the winters when the temperature was 50 degrees below zero and snow lay 6 feet deep. Kittens and cats rode with every pedlar, and were as familiar a sight as his pots and pans. When the wilderness had been cleared by the pioneer's axe cats did much to make settlers' homes possible. When the corn was in the barn they became absolutely necessary to foil the mice, the squirrels and the gophers. It is impossible to compute the vast quantities of food cats have saved, the plagues and vermin they have kept in check, and how much property they have guarded from destruction by the hundreds of varieties of rodents

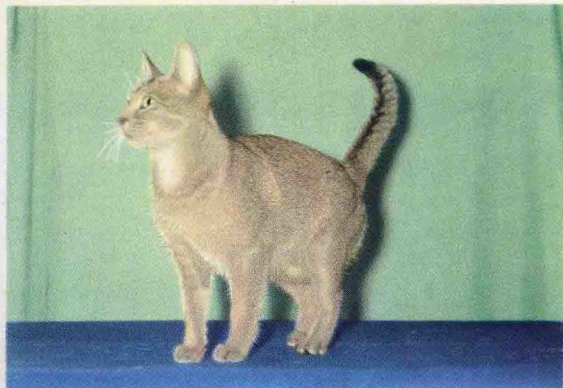
which inhabit the continent. Every farm today has a host of cats—barn cats, granary cats, house cats—the most common colours out west being grey or black and white, with white feet and white bib, the tabby, and an astonishing number of handsome silver-blue short-hair types, which occur in practically every litter. These have thick, close fur and green or yellow eyes.

There are an estimated 798,000 cats on the prairies alone and over 3,000,000 in Canada. (These figures were obtained from a Survey Company's report to one of the largest cat food organisations in Canada). Considering the population of Canada, this gives a ratio of approximately 1 cat per five people.

Of the pedigree breeds, the Siamese seems to be the most popular in Canada today. There are also many White long-hairs, Creams, Blues and Blacks. Abyssinian, Burmese and Russian Blue are also entered at the shows. Manx are uncommon. The new breed, the Himalayan (Colourpoint Long-hair in Britain) is gaining popularity in leaps and bounds, and former confirmed lovers of Siamese are changing their minds. The Himalayan is a Persian cat with the Siamese blue eyes and distinctive markings.

The distances between the Cat Club shows in Canada are very great, and from Calgary it means a trip of 500 miles over the Rockies to Vancouver for the show there, and approximately 2,000 miles east to Toronto or Montreal shows. Calgary has an Annual Championship Show in the autumn, held at the Exhibition and Stampede Grounds.

The very cold winters in Western Canada do not seem to bother the health of the cats, but occasionally the tail or ears of stray cats become frozen. Even well-cared-for cats are prone to have their

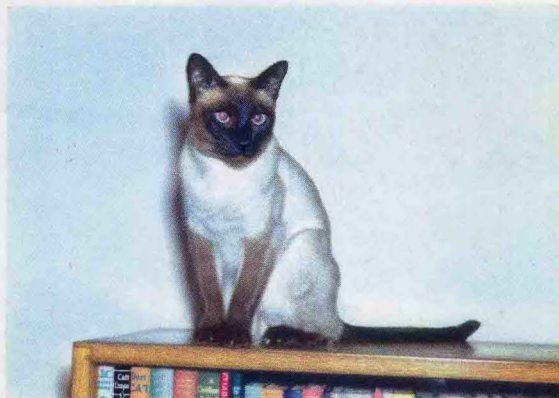


Short-haired

ABYSSINIAN

(Owned by Mrs. Menezes)

Breed No. 23

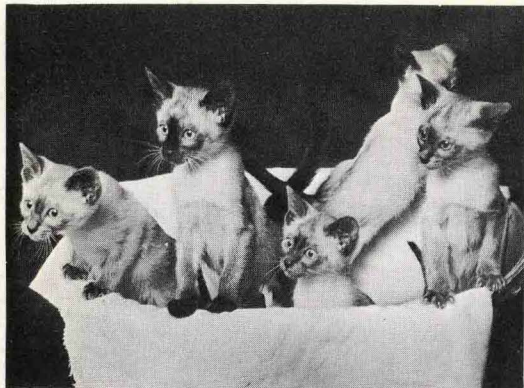


Short-haired

SEAL-POINTED SIAMESE

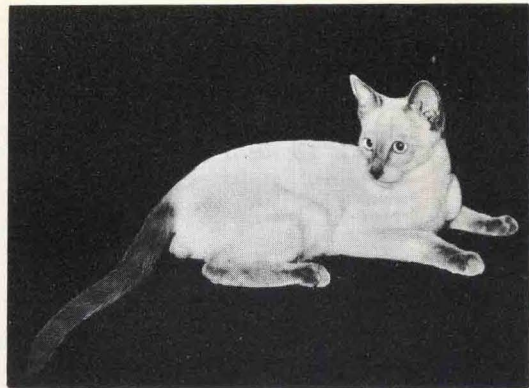
(Owned by Miss M. Shrourder)

Breed No. 24



Owned by Mrs. M. Worsley

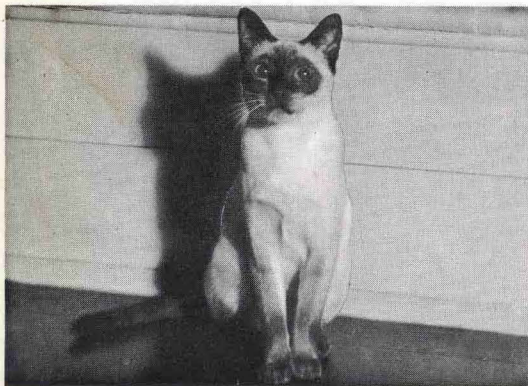
SIAMESE KITTENS AT EIGHT WEEKS



Breed No. 24c

Owned by Mrs. Hargreaves

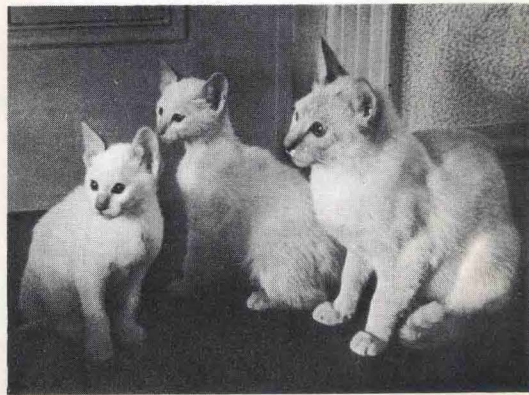
LILAC-POINTED SIAMESE
A Grand Champion in America



Breed No. 24b

Owned by Mrs. D. Clarke

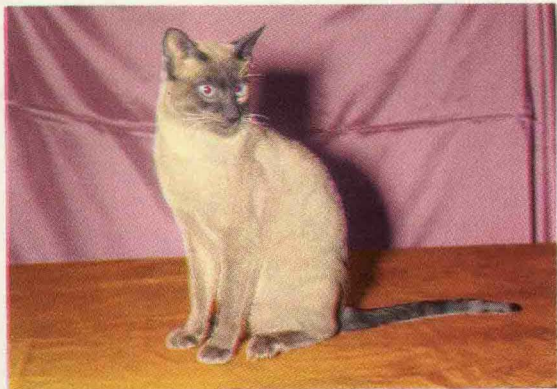
CHOCOLATE-POINTED SIAMESE



Breed No. 32a

Owned by Miss A. Ray

RED-POINTED CAT AND KITTENS

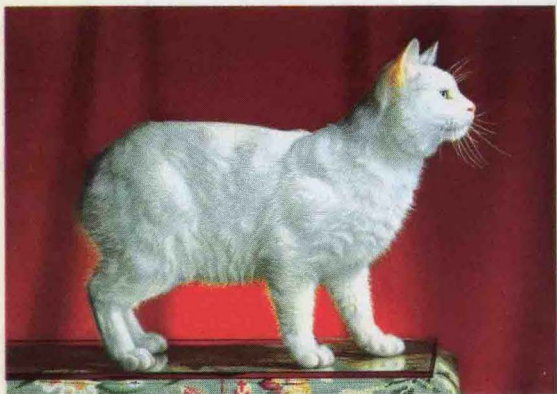


Short-haired

Breed No. 24a

BLUE-POINTED SIAMESE

(Owned by Mrs. Hookins)



Short-haired

Breed No. 25

MANX

(Owned by Miss A. Aitken)

Plate 20



Short-haired

Breed No. 26

ANY OTHER VARIETY

(Owned by Mrs. B. Smith)



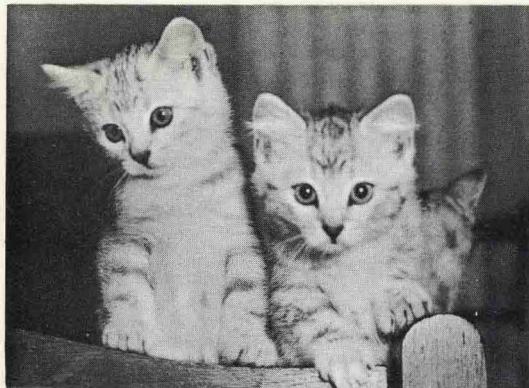
Short-haired

Breed No. 27

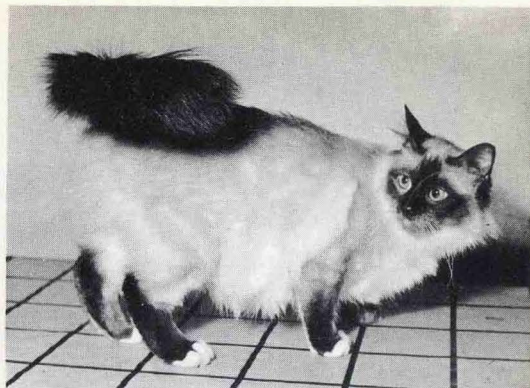
BURMESE

(Owned by Miss M. Shrouder)

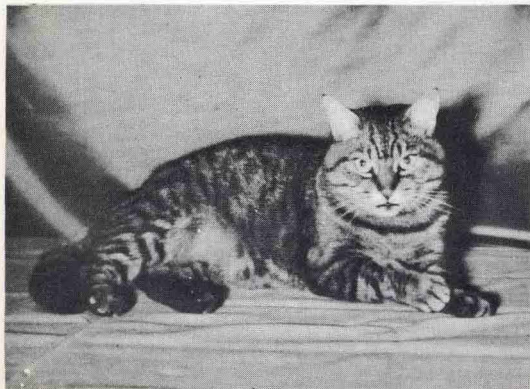
Plate 21



Breed No. 18
SHORT-HAIRED SILVER TABBY KITTENS



Breed No. 13c
BIRMAN (SACRED CAT OF BURMA)
Owned by Madame Vaudalle



Breed No. 26
SPOTTED TABBY
Owned by Mrs. G. Gubby



Owned by Mrs. Watts
REX KITTEN

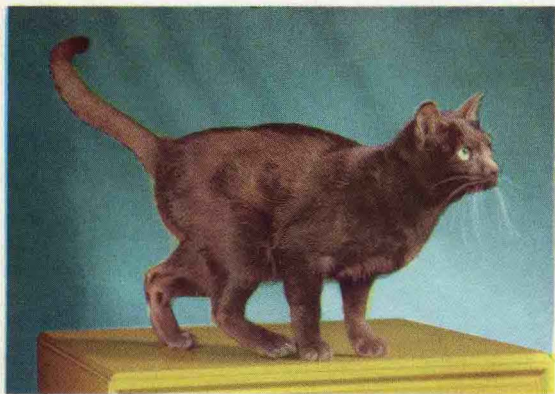


Short-haired

BLUE-CREAM

(Owned by Mrs. E. Attwood)

Breed No. 28



Short-haired

CHESTNUT BROWN FOREIGN

(Owned by Mrs. Monro-Smith)

Plate 24

Breed No. 29

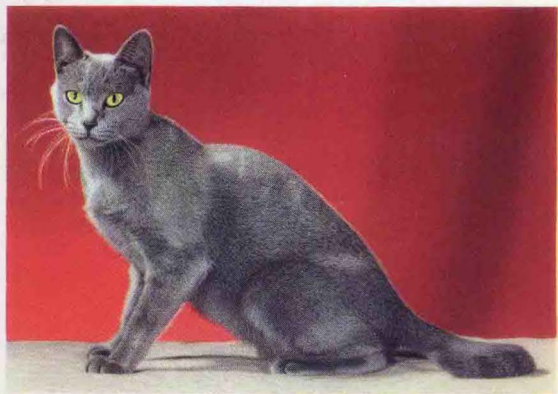


Short-haired

BLUE BRITISH

(Owned by Mrs. E. Attwood)

Breed No. 16



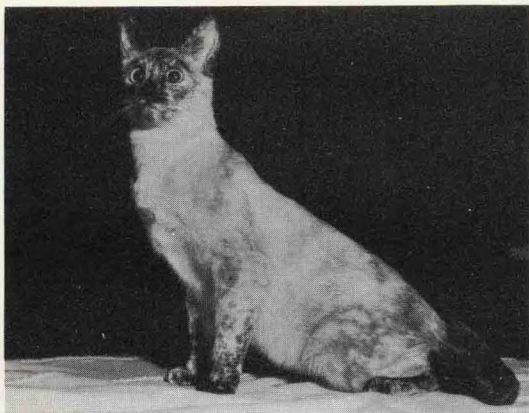
Short-haired

RUSSIAN BLUE

(Owned by Mrs. Dennis)

Breed No. 16a

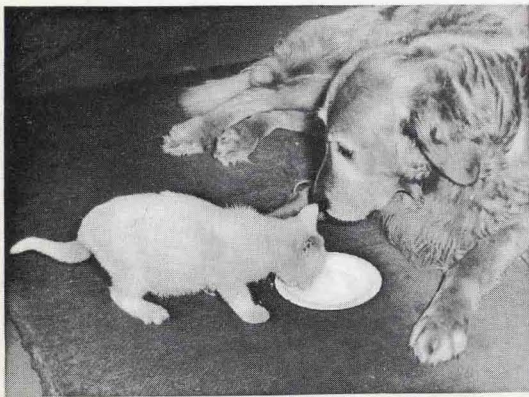
Plate 25



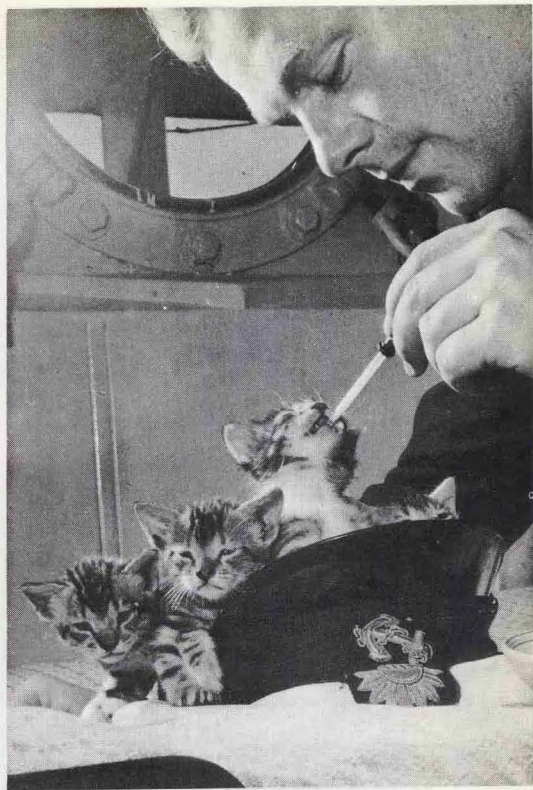
Breed No. 32b

Photo: Sports Press Pictures

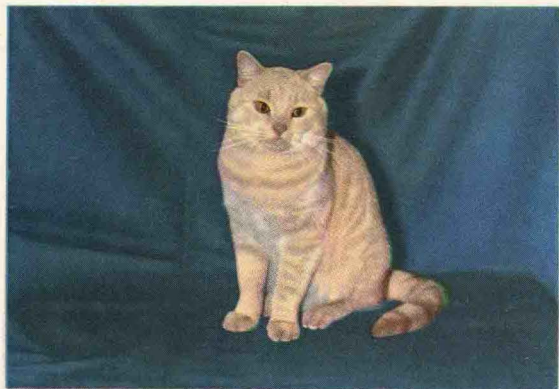
TORTIE-POINT SIAMESE



Cats and dogs can live together in perfect harmony



Orphaned kittens being fed by hand

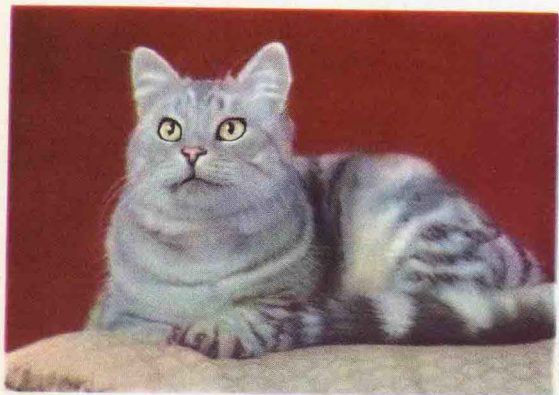


Short-haired

CREAM

(Owned by Mrs. E. Attwood)

Breed No. 17



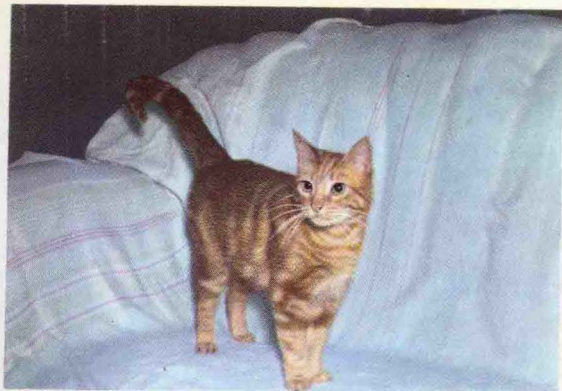
Short-haired

SILVER TABBY

(Owned by Miss Robson)

Breed No. 18

Plate 28



Short-haired

RED TABBY

(Owned by Miss N. Woodfield)

Breed No. 19

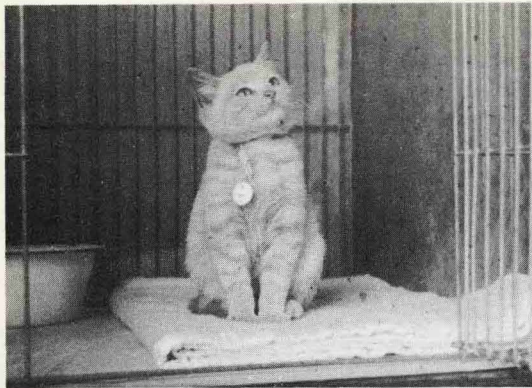


Short-haired

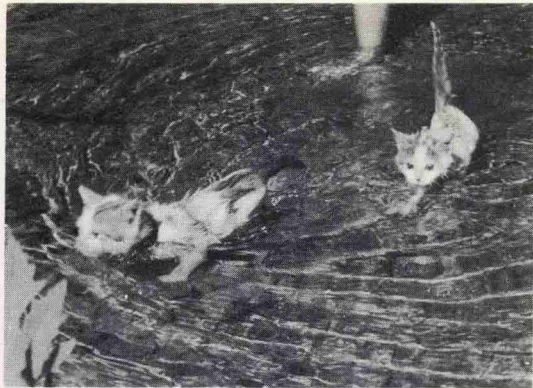
BROWN TABBY (left) AND HOUSEHOLD PET

Breed No. 20

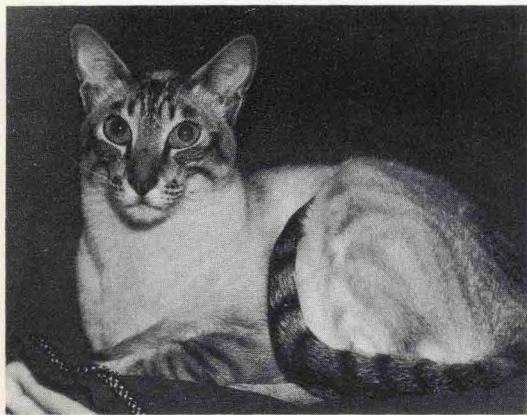
Plate 29



Ready for the judge



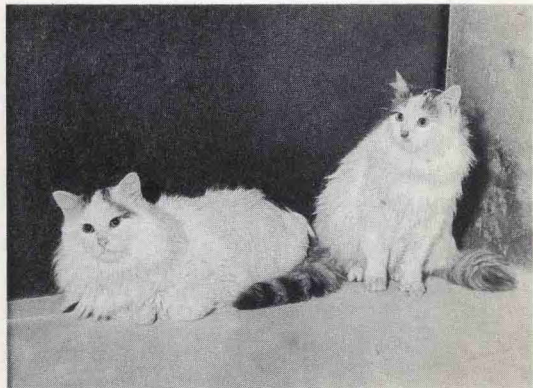
Kittens swimming in a stream in Turkey



Breed No. 32

Photo: Anne Cumbers

TABBY-POINTED SIAMESE



Owned by Miss Lushington

Cats from Turkey on show in Britain



Short-haired

TORTOISESHELL

(Owned by Miss Latham)

Breed No. 21



Short-haired

TORTOISESHELL-AND-WHITE

(Owned by Miss Robson)

Breed No. 22

ears frozen if they are left out in temperatures of 20, 30 or 40 degrees below zero. The part becomes discoloured and often falls off. However all cats love to go out in the snow for a short while, play, dig holes, chase each other and then rush inside again. Their fur is really beautiful in the winter, but why should it not be, when Canada produces some of the finest wild furs in the world?

AUSTRALIA

Since 1925, when the first Club for registered cats was founded, public interest in pedigree cats in Australia has been rapidly expanding. The Siamese head the list in popularity, and at shows the Chinchillas, Shaded Silvers (Plate 10), Blues, Blacks and Whites are well represented.

In such a large country as Australia, with the breeders living, and the cat shows being held, thousands of miles apart, it has not proved practicable to have one Governing body, and New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia each have their various Clubs and Shows held under their own organisations.

Apart from the shows for cats alone—and some shows attract entries of over three hundred cats—there are also sections for them at the large agricultural and sheep shows, which always have very large attendances. A feature unknown in England, due no doubt to weather conditions, is the picnic fixture, with both the cats and exhibitors travelling by bus to the chosen rendezvous.

A number of the cats are of British descent, and there is a steady demand for British prize-winning kittens. It will be appreciated that the costly sea or air journey with the enforced quarantine on arrival makes importation a very expensive business, and therefore it is only the cream of British stock

which arrive to improve the already very good Australian blood lines.

NEW ZEALAND

As in the other countries belonging to the Commonwealth, research has revealed practically nothing about the history of the domestic cat in New Zealand, except for the fact that it was first introduced by the early settlers, which makes one realise that even in those far-away days the value of the cat as a catcher of vermin was appreciated and also that it was regarded as a member of the household who went with the family as a matter of course.

In 1930, the New Zealand Governing Council was founded, with a similar constitution and regulations to the British one. As in most countries, the second world war played havoc with pedigree cat breeding, and it was not until 1949 that interest was revived, which is steadily growing. There are now a number of flourishing cat clubs and many cat shows. As in Australia, as well as the separate cat shows, there are also sections for cats at stock shows, and special features are the classes held for children's pets.

In this country, too, there is a steady importation of really outstanding cats from the British Isles, and cats with well-known British prefixes in their pedigrees are constant winners at the shows. The high cost of these pedigree cats, together with the expensive journey and quarantine, shows clearly how much value is placed on cats of British breeding. The quality of the New Zealand animals is excellent, with most breeds well represented. The Siamese are very popular, and long-haired Blacks, Blues and Reds, in particular, seem to do well on the show bench.

CATS IN SOUTH AFRICA

It is very difficult to trace the history of the domestic cat in South Africa, little being known, apart from the fact that the first missionaries and settlers brought their pets with them. Most native villages have their dogs, but a cat is a rare sight, and if one is seen, it has usually come from a European home.

Several of the animal societies, such as the Royal Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Our Dumb Friends League and the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals have branches in wide-spread parts of Africa, where cats are among the many animals receiving attention.

The interests of the pedigree cat in South Africa are looked after by the South African Cat Union. This was founded in 1946 primarily to register cats, to encourage pedigree breeding and cat shows, and is associated with the British Governing Council. Apparently there were very few pedigree cats in South Africa prior to that date, but today there are many excellent examples of a number of the recognised breeds. The Siamese appears to be the most popular, outnumbering all others at the shows, while excellent Cream and Blue long-hairs all bred from imported English cats are making a name for themselves. There do not appear to be any British short-hairs, and very few household pets are shown. In such a large country, running a cat show is quite an achievement, and the four cat clubs, the Western Province Cat Club, the Siamese Cat Society of South Africa, the Rand Cat Club, and the Natal Cat Club, are doing fine work in promoting interest in pedigree cats.

CATS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Very little is known about the first domestic cats in North America, but there is evidence that they were brought by early missionaries to the Indians (see page 101), and that they accompanied the Pilgrims to New England and of course, as in Europe, played their part in the witch hysteria culminating in the trials of 1682. As the early settlers moved across the country, it is only reasonable to assume that the cats and kittens went with them, and helped by protecting the food and keeping down the vermin. As in Canada, the farm or working cat today plays a very important part which is duly appreciated by the farmers, many of whom have their cats periodically inspected by veterinary surgeons.

It is roughly estimated that in the U.S.A., which now holds an annual 'Cat Week', there is a cat population in the region of 50,000,000, and there is a very large trade in all types of products having anything to do with cats.

The first American cat show of which there are actual records, was held in New York in 1884, as part of a large livestock and pet show, although the first separate cat show was not until 1895, and was organised by a Mr. Hyde, an Englishman, who ran it after visiting one of the Crystal Palace shows in England. Apparently it was a great success, and seems to have aroused public interest in pedigree cats.

The oldest cat organisation is the Beresford Cat

Club of Chicago, which was founded in 1899, and named in honour of Lady Marcus Beresford of England, who had taken a great interest in the development of the pure-bred cat in America, and it was through her efforts that many of the finest cats in England were exported to America. Being such a large country, it has not proved practicable to have one governing body as in Britain, but there are several central Associations and Federations combining the government of many clubs. By showing under the various organisations, it is possible for a cat to become a double champion or even a triple champion.

Among the first cats known were the short-haired Blues, which were called Maltese and were much valued for their good tempers and for being such excellent mousers.

Most of the pedigree cats are descended from British imported stock, with the exception of the Burmese, which came to North America from the East, and were in turn exported to England. Some of the American long-haired cats excel in type and length of coat, but the breeds were not as adversely affected as were British ones during the war years.

White cats have always been popular in the United States, and in Chicago at the beginning of the century there were many beautiful specimens. The Blue-eyed Whites in particular seem to be outstanding, although even with careful selected breeding it has not proved possible to eradicate the deafness from which this breed suffers.

Many outstanding British cats of all varieties are sold to the United States and do well when appearing at shows there.

CARE AND FEEDING

BUYING A KITTEN

Having decided on the particular breed of kitten preferred, the next step is to find out how to obtain one. This is not always easy and patience may be needed. Pedigree kittens are advertised sometimes in the national newspapers. *Fur and Feather*, the official weekly paper for the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, has pages on cat-breeding, and gives Club news and carries kitten advertisements. The secretaries of the many cat clubs throughout the country are always willing to help by giving the names of breeders of the variety in question. A list of clubs is given on page 153. If they have sold all their kittens or have a long waiting list, specialist breeders may know of others for sale. A visit to a cat show may be worth while, as often kittens of many breeds are offered for sale there. The animal departments of the big stores and pet shops will usually endeavour to obtain a specific breed. Pedigree cats are not such prolific breeders (the long-haired varieties in particular) as the household pets, usually having not more than two litters a year, the first in the spring, and kittens may have to be booked well in advance.

The price of pedigree kittens varies considerably. Occasionally it is possible to obtain quite cheaply really beautiful little kittens that have been cross-bred or have been born as the result of a pedigree queen mis-mating, and are no good for breeding.

Non-pedigree kittens can be purchased for a small sum through local advertisements, from pet shops

and stores, and are sometimes given away by friends and neighbours.

Many beautiful kittens may also be seen when visiting the continent, but before buying one it is well to remember that in the British Isles there are stringent quarantine laws which preclude the importation of cats from abroad unless they are placed in a recognised quarantine station for a period of six months, which makes buying a foreign cat or kitten a very expensive business.

It is advisable to visit the breeder to see the kittens and to choose the one with the most appeal. A kitten should be at least eight weeks old when purchased; even nine or ten weeks old is still quite young. By this age the kitten is usually fully weaned and on a mixed diet. The following points should be borne in mind; a kitten who does not seem nervous, is lively and alert, with bright shining eyes, clean ears, no signs of diarrhoea, and has a soft well-groomed flea-free coat, is a wise choice. The breeder will provide full details of the diet the kitten has been having. This should be strictly adhered to for the first week or two, and any new item of food introduced in small quantities only.

If it is impossible to pay a personal visit to choose the kitten, one may be purchased from a cattery or breeder of good repute and sent by train to be called for at the nearest station. The breeder will probably provide the basket the kitten is to travel in, and this must be returned as soon as possible.

The purchaser will be notified of the exact time of arrival, so that the kitten will not be kept waiting at the station. On reaching home, the new owner should make sure that all the doors and windows are closed and fireplaces and chimneys covered, and the kitten should be let out of the box quietly.

At first he will feel lost and lonely away from his mother and the rest of the litter. He must be introduced to things gradually by being carried around in the arms for a while and talked to gently and quietly, to gain his confidence. He should be allowed to walk and sniff around the room, and when he has settled down offered a small tasty meal. Indiscriminate picking-up by young children must not be allowed, as it is not always realised how much harm and bruising can be done to the ribs and stomach of young kittens by hugging and squeezing. To pick up a kitten, place the hand under the body, with the fingers up under the neck supporting the head. He must not be picked up by the scruff of the neck.

Cats are naturally fastidious animals and a kitten of eight weeks is probably house-trained already by his mother. For a sanitary tray an oven tin about eighteen inches square is excellent.

Sand, ashes, earth, peat moss, sawdust or one of the proprietary cat litters may be used in this and the tin placed on a large sheet of newspaper to prevent the kitten scratching the contents all over the floor. The tray should be changed at least once daily and rinsed out with a suitable disinfectant, one that does not contain carbolic, which is poisonous to cats. The kitten must know where the tray is, as he cannot be expected to find his way from one room to another to use the tray for the first few days at least. If a garden is available, the kitten can be taken out there at frequent intervals, and the sanitary tray moved nearer and nearer to the back door until the kitten is trained to go outside of his own accord. This will take a little time and patience, but kittens learn very quickly.

A cardboard box or basket with a warm blanket will make a good sleeping place, and if the weather is

cold, a warm hot-water-bottle will make the kitten feel less strange away from the warmth of the rest of the litter. A table-tennis ball, a toy mouse, a small soft toy or crumpled-up piece of paper that can be chased around will help to keep him amused.

If a dog who is not used to cats is a member of the household when the new kitten arrives, great care and patience will be necessary for the first few days. Strangely, enough, the larger dog seems to be better behaved with a kitten, often insisting on washing and cleaning it. The smaller dog may be very jealous and deeply resentful of the newcomer. Do not fondle the kitten in front of the dog or let him feel neglected. It is better not to feed them at the same time or to leave them alone together until friendly relations have been established. Unless the kitten has been brought up with dogs he will probably arch his back and spit at the sight of the dog, who may start barking, frightening the kitten still more. Watch must be kept to see that if the kitten panics, his claws do not harm the dog's eyes. After a few days they will probably ignore each other, and then may even start to be friendly. In fact, cats and dogs can live together in perfect harmony and be the best of friends. I had a sealyham and a cat who always came with me for walks in the forest joining the garden, the one refusing to come without the other.

FEEDING

A kitten of about eight weeks requires four small meals a day. The more mixed the diet the better. An all-fish diet may bring on a skin disease. Raw meat is really essential. Good raw beef given scraped or minced, cooked meat such as veal and lamb, but not too fat, cooked rabbit, chicken, a small quantity of liver, heart, cooked white fish

free from bones, tinned pilchards and raw eggs are all very good items to include. Most kittens like their food mixed with one of the breakfast foods such as cornflakes or a little crumbled brown bread. The meals should be given moist but not too wet, as this tends to encourage diarrhoea. A heaped tablespoonful for each meal should be sufficient for an eight-weeks-old kitten, the quantity increasing with the growth of the kitten. The early morning meal could be of porridge, or of one of the well-known baby food preparations. Some kittens can take cow's milk without any ill effects, but others may suffer with looseness after it, and if given at all, it should be given very sparingly. There should always be fresh water to drink. Proprietary cat foods may be introduced gradually into the diet, and the effects noted. Half a teaspoonful of fluid magnesia added to the milky meal is a good preventative against digestive troubles and teething upsets. A few drops of halibut oil included in the diet daily will help to prevent rickets. Vegetables such as cabbage, carrots, spinach and green peas may be mashed up and given in small quantities with other foods. Care must be taken to see that all small fish, meat, rabbit and chicken bones have been carefully removed before the meal is given to the kitten, although some kittens like a large raw beef bone to chew on.

The number of meals may be cut down gradually but increased in quantity, until at about six months the kitten is having two large meals a day, dependent upon the particular kitten's appetite. Any uneaten food should not be left down. A small milk drink could still be given at mid-day.

A cat or kitten that catches rats and mice still requires feeding, as a diet of mice alone is not sufficient.

If a cat has no access to a garden or open fields, a pot of coarse grass should be provided. This can be grown quite easily. Cats like to chew grass as a natural emetic which helps to prevent fur-balls. A weekly dose of a large teaspoonful of liquid paraffin is also helpful against this, particularly for the long-haired cats.

GROOMING

All cats require a certain amount of grooming, from the occasional combing of the short-haired house pet to the daily, if not twice-daily, brushing of the long-haired show specimen. To enable the kitten to become used to grooming, whatever the breed, the earlier the start the better.

The general care is much the same for all varieties. The eyes and ears should be wiped out gently with small pieces of slightly dampened cotton wool. A light dusting of boracic acid powder right into the ears, once or twice a week, should keep them free from canker. If the ears show any signs of canker, they must be cleaned out carefully and a little canker lotion or powder poured in. While any cat may pick up a flea, there is no necessity for the animal always to have them. There are many flea powders on the market, but only those advertised as being suitable for cats should be used, as others may contain substances such as D.D.T., which are poisonous to them.

Compared with the long-hairs, grooming of the short-haired breeds is comparatively simple. A careful combing through with a fairly close-toothed steel comb should be followed by a brisk brushing with a stiff-bristled hair brush. A final rub all over with a piece of velvet, chamois leather or a silk or chiffon handkerchief, or a wipe with the hands, will produce a beautiful sheen.

With the long-haired varieties daily grooming is essential, particularly in the spring when the fur is being shed. The coat should be combed with a coarse steel comb to remove all the loose hair, and any knots gently teased out. The tail should receive special attention. The Blue, Blue-cream, Cream, White and Chinchilla cats may be sprinkled with a good quality talcum powder, which must be combed well into the coat and then brushed out until none can be seen. The frill should be brushed up all around the head.

Long-haired cats that are to be shown will require special preparation, although care must be taken not to over-groom to such an extent that much of the coat and frill is brushed out. At least a month before the show, intensive grooming may be started. Extra talcum powder may be used on the lighter coats, but it is advisable not to powder on the morning of the show, as this would lead to disqualification if any were to be left in the coat.

To get the coat into show condition every trace of grease and dirt must be removed. There must be no fleas or flea dirt, and the ears and eyes must be perfectly clean. In short, the cat must be in perfect health and groomed to the peak of perfection.

NEUTERING AND SPAYING

Between the ages of three-and-a-half months and six months, depending upon development, a male kitten that is not to be used as a stud may be neutered quite easily by a veterinary surgeon without an anaesthetic. After six months an anaesthetic is necessary.

Generally the kitten is not affected by the operation, but should be kept quiet and given light food for the next day or so. In all probability, if a male is not neutered, when fully grown he will spray in

the house, leaving behind him the unpleasant tom cat smell, will wander off looking for queens to mate, and will be involved in blood-thirsty fights with other toms. It is for these reasons that most stud owners keep their studs in separate houses and runs of their own.

Females can be neutered or 'spayed' to prevent them having kittens or constant callers. Much progress has been made in recent years with this operation, and now, thanks to the use of antibiotics, the risk involved is slight. Naturally it is a far more serious operation than that of neutering the male, but with good surgery and after-care nursing the female soon recovers and does not seem to suffer any ill-effects. Here again the veterinary surgeon should be consulted as to the best age to perform the operation.

Many cat owners are hesitant about having their cats neutered, when they think of the many heavy and lethargic neuters they have seen, but there is no reason why a neuter that is fed correctly and has plenty of attention and exercise should not be just as lively and intelligent as an 'entire' animal.

GOING ON HOLIDAY

When the owner of a cat is thinking about going on holiday, it is as well to remember beforehand that arrangements must be made for the animal's well-being. It is not sufficient to leave food and water out for it, as it would probably eat it all at once, and would have to go without for the rest of the period. A good neighbour may be willing to come in and feed the cat regularly and shut it up at night. No cats should be left out all night, as they are frequent causes of road accidents, if they themselves are not the victims. Friends may be kind enough to take the animal into their home, but it must be

impressed on them that cats are escapists and care must be taken that a visiting cat does not have access to open windows, doors or even chimneys. Animal societies and cat clubs will supply addresses of boarding kennels or people willing to look after pets. Vets are sometimes prepared to board cats.

Boarding catteries must now be inspected and licensed, with the licence hung in full view. Visit any cattery before sending your cat there, see the licence and inspect the house in which your pet will be kept. Before accepting, the proprietor may insist that your cat has been vaccinated against infectious enteritis and may ask for a 'good health' certificate from a vet. This is not only a protection for the other animals, but is a safeguard for your pet. A list of the cat's food likes and dislikes should be taken to the boarding cattery with the animal.

QUARANTINE

The law of the land in Britain requires that a cat brought from abroad should be put in quarantine for six months, so that it is not advisable to bring cats into this country unless it is for a very long stay. The period of quarantine is enforced to prevent the spread of rabies in Britain, from which we are fortunately free. There is a large establishment at Hackbridge in Surrey for this purpose, and there are now one or two smaller establishments run by veterinary surgeons whose premises, after strict inspection by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, have been passed as suitable for the quarantine of animals. More than most animals, cats seem to suffer from the long solitary confinement, and of course, if a young kitten has to undergo this separation, it is a full grown cat before it is allowed home, and the fun of seeing it growing up and its character developing will be missed.

BREEDING

Female cats may come into season or 'on heat', and start calling at anything from six months onwards. The Siamese and similar breeds are apt to call earlier than the long-haired varieties, while the household pets may call from as early an age as five months. Opinions differ as to the age the female should be when she is first mated, but generally it is considered advisable to wait until she is about nine or ten months old and well developed.

A stud list is published annually by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. This gives the names and addresses of the owners of male pedigree cats who are willing to accept queens for stud, together with details of the pedigrees and the fees payable—these are due in advance. The stud's pedigree should be studied to see that it is not too close to that of the queen's, and, if possible, either the stud or a picture of him should be seen. It should be the aim of anyone breeding pedigree cats to produce kittens of as good a type as possible, by choosing a stud whose good points will help to correct any bad faults in the female. For example, in the case of a long-haired cat, if the female's ears are too large, a stud should be chosen with small ears, while if the cat is a Siamese with a slightly round head, a stud with a good wedge-shaped head should be chosen. It is not to be expected that if the stud chosen is a champion all the kittens produced will be future champions; so much depends upon the two pedigrees and whether a stud suits a particular

queen. Even the most experienced breeders find it difficult to breed champions, as will be seen from the small numbers of cats becoming champions each season.

The first signs shown by the female that she is about to start calling are usually her extreme friendliness and restlessness. She may start rushing around, making mewing noises, and then will stop and tread the ground with her back legs, sometimes rolling over and over and howling. She must be kept away from all male cats if she is to be sent away to stud. It is considered advisable not to send the female away for mating at her first calling, but at the second if she is old enough. Most females come into season quite frequently during the spring and summer, calling every four or five weeks. Some cats call almost continuously until they are mated, while others may call only once or twice during the mating season. A pedigree cat may be allowed two litters a year, depending entirely upon her condition; some breeders prefer their queens to have only one each season, although with the Siamese it is often difficult. The queen should not be mated immediately after bringing up a litter, but should be allowed time to get back into first-class condition.

Before the queen starts calling, arrangements should be made with the owner of the stud chosen for the female to be sent or taken to him when next she calls. When she is definitely calling a telephone call should be made or a telegram sent to the stud owner asking if it is convenient to send the queen. Upon receiving assent, arrangements should be made on the second day either to take the queen or to send her by rail in an adequate and warm basket or box clearly marked 'Live cat—to be called for'. The stud owner must be informed of the time of

arrival of the female, so that she may be met. She will probably receive two matings while at the stud's, in case the first was not adequate. Most owners of studs are kind enough to take the queen a second time should there be no results from the first visit, but there is no obligation to do so. The queen's owner will receive a copy of the male's pedigree, together with a note as to the date of the mating, and the probable time of kittening.

On her return, the female must be kept away from all male cats for at least a week in case the visit was unsuccessful, or in case she may be mated again, as it has been known for double conception to take place. She should not be treated as an invalid, but allowed to lead a perfectly normal life. A good varied and nourishing diet, with not too much horse meat, should be given all through the pregnancy, with fluid magnesia added to the milky drinks to help to correct any acidity in the milk. Any unnecessary handling should be avoided during the last week or so. The kittens can be expected approximately 63-65 days after the mating.

It is exceedingly difficult to know for the first few weeks whether the queen is in kitten. About three weeks after the mating, in some cats a slight reddening of the nipples may be seen. During the last month the cat will increase rapidly in girth and will be unmistakably in kitten.

Small doses of olive oil are most helpful during pregnancy. The cat should be given half an eggspoonful twice a week at the beginning, increasing the dose during the last week or so to three times a week. (Olive oil once a week is also wonderful for good coats).

A week or two before the kittens are due a large box should be provided in a dark corner or in a cupboard, well away from any possible interference.

The box must not be too high, as the queen may experience difficulty in getting in and out, and after the kittens are born, if she cannot see into the box she may jump on them. Plenty of clean newspapers should be provided. The queen will probably spend some time tearing them into shreds to make a bed, but it is better to leave her until some hours after the kittens are born, when the discoloured and torn papers may be removed and a blanket or towel placed under the queen and kittens.

When the kittens are about to be born, there may be signs of milk in the nipples and the cat may be extra affectionate. She will probably settle down quite readily in the box and will be able to cope with everything herself. Apart from an occasional glance to ensure that all is in order, it is better to leave her alone. If after some hours there are no kittens and she appears to be in pain or distressed, expert veterinary advice should be sought. In all probability all will go well, the queen will have the kittens quite easily and will wash and clean up everything after them. When it appears that all the kittens have arrived, the queen should be given a warm milk drink, the bedding changed, and then the little family should be left in peace. If the queen is a good mother, the kittens will need no attention for the next ten to twelve days. She should be kept on a light diet for at least twenty-four hours after kitting.

Even if she has made her own arrangements for mating, when expecting kittens the household pet will require exactly the same diet and facilities for having her litter as the pedigree cat. After they have been born, the kittens should be sexed and any unwanted ones taken to the veterinary surgeon or to one of the animal societies to be painlessly destroyed. This is preferable to drowning, as it is

much quicker and kinder. If possible, male kittens should be kept, as it is easier to find homes for them.

THE YOUNG KITTENS

Many people have a shock when seeing the first litters of their pedigree cats, thinking that they have mongrels instead. Blue Persian kittens and many of the other self-coloured long-haired breeds have definite tabby markings. In fact it is said the more defined the markings, the better the kitten will be. These fade as the kitten grows its long coat. Black Persian kittens are brownish in colour, and here again, the most brownish kittens will probably be the best Blacks when older. Chinchillas are quite dark, while Siamese kittens are white.

If the queen has no objection to the kittens being handled, they can be sexed when a day old, as it is easier to distinguish the sexual organs before the fur starts growing.

Beneath the tail of the male kitten will be found the entrance to the anus, which is circular. About three-eighths to half-an-inch nearer the stomach, rudimentary testicles, which are 'bunchy' in appearance, may be seen. In the female kitten the anus is in the same position as in that of the male, but quite close to it the vagina will appear as a small slit. There is no 'bunchiness' in the female.

If there are both sexes in the litter, the task is infinitely easier, as a male and female may be examined side by side, when the differences may be quite clearly seen. Once the coat begins to grow, it becomes much more difficult to tell, especially with the long-haired breeds, and even the most experienced of breeders may make an occasional error, but it is true to say that the more newly-born the kittens the easier it becomes to tell the sex.

Most queens can manage to feed up to four or five kittens successfully and some even more. If it is found that the mother has no milk, it may be possible to find a foster mother, otherwise the hand-rearing of the kittens may have to be undertaken. This is by no means an easy task or one to take on lightly. It means feeding every two hours throughout the day and night for the next three weeks. I have reared kittens by hand on one of the baby foods according to the formula on the tin, using fountain pen fillers fitted with pieces of cycle valve rubber tubing. It must be remembered that if the queen has lost interest in the kittens, they must be cleaned very gently all over. A piece of slightly dampened rough towelling will replace the mother's tongue.

After about ten to twelve days the kittens' eyes will start to open. If after that time the lids are still tightly shut and there appears to be a slight stickiness and swelling, they should be bathed very gently with a small piece of cotton wool soaked in warm boracic water, and the lids lightly smeared with a little vaseline. If this proves inadequate after a day or so, the vet will supply you with a little penicillin or aureomycin ointment which should speedily clear up any trouble. The kittens should not be kept in any strong light until the eyes are well opened.

When about three weeks old, the kittens will start struggling to get out of the box and will be staggering all over the floor. A small, easily accessible sanitary tray should be provided for them and the mother will start house-training them.

Weaning may be started at this age. Any of the proprietary baby milk foods, goat's milk, cow's milk boiled with a little glucose, and some lime water added to help bone-formation, can be given; a little fluid magnesia may be added to prevent

digestive troubles. Some kittens will lap right away, while with others patience will be needed. A drop on the kitten's lips for the first day or two will enable him to get to know the taste. Within a few days most kittens will have learned to lap from a spoon and the milk should then be offered in a small saucer. One small teaspoonful should be given for the first week. A second milk feed may be introduced the next week, and the kitten tried with a little scraped raw beef. Baby food cereals may be introduced gradually. The first solids should include cooked white fish, scraped raw beef, mashed cooked rabbit, cornflakes, raw or scrambled eggs. The kitten's stomach is very small, and over-feeding must be avoided during weaning, as it must be remembered that the kitten will still be suckling from its mother. By the age of eight weeks, the weaning should be completed and the kitten receiving four small meals a day.

The kittens may be sold from about eight weeks onwards, and the new owner will probably require a pedigree. Pedigree forms may be obtained from the various specialist clubs. If it is proposed to go in for breeding seriously, it is as well to choose a cattery name and register it for one guinea with the Governing Council. A suitable prefix may be chosen, and application made to the secretary for registering it. If it is not being used by any one else and is considered suitable, permission will be granted by the Governing Council and the prefix reserved for the sole use of that particular breeder. It will appear on the pedigrees and registration forms of kittens of his breeding only. Kittens may be registered on the payment of a small fee per kitten, and when they are sold the registration may be transferred to the new owner for a similar sum.

THE STUD

Naturally, in the breeding of pedigree cats, the male cat, or stud as he is referred to, plays a very important part. Many may think when they first decide to start breeding kittens that all they have to do is to get a pair of unrelated kittens or cats and sit back and wait for the results. This may be all right in theory, but it does not always work out in practice. A male and female kitten will probably live together quite happily for the first few months, then the female may start calling and the male will not be old enough to mate her, or the male will start worrying the female before she is ready. Males should not be used for stud purposes until they are at least a year old, and then only once or twice. Many fanciers prefer the male not to be used until he is about eighteen months, while some males do not appear to be ready until they are over two years old. A virile stud will need more than one queen, otherwise he may be rather wild and noisy, and if he is allowed out, will always be roaming the district in search of females and becoming involved in fights with other males. For this reason, and for his unpleasant habit of spraying with its subsequent tom-cat smell, it is usually impracticable to allow him his complete freedom, and a stud house will have to be provided. Although one stud I had was always the perfect gentleman, lived in the house with the other cats, and never attempted to spray, he was an exception. The house or shed should be large enough to stand up in, dry, with plenty of light, and easy to clean out daily, with the biggest strong run space permits to allow for plenty of exercise. If possible, it should not be sited too near the house, because of both the smell and the possible noise from visiting queens and the stud himself. The male should be allowed to roam around the

garden under supervision, should be groomed daily and given plenty of fuss and attention. Most stud cats are very friendly and sociable, and although it may be necessary to keep him in his run, the more human contacts and companionship he has the better.

In choosing a male, the best possible example of the breed one can afford should be obtained. When buying a kitten with this purpose in mind, especially from a show, many judges would be only too willing to advise a novice as to the male's possibilities. Of course, the more winning he has done, the higher the price.

Thought must be given to the fact that the stud needs more than one queen, and unless the would-be breeder intends to have three or four queens, it would be kinder to advertise the stud's services for visiting queens, which will entail many patient hours spent in the stud-house by his owner to ensure that the male mates the visitor, and there is also the risk of infection being brought to the house.

If it is decided to accept visiting females, part of the stud's house must be made into a small run and sleeping place for the queen. The run should be covered with wire netting, to enable the pair to get to know one another without actually meeting, and the sleeping part should be covered, to ensure the female some privacy. Not until it seems as if the queen is friendly disposed towards the male, should he be allowed to mate her. A shelf or high box should be provided to enable him to get out of the female's way once the mating is accomplished, as some females are inclined to be vicious and will attack the male afterwards. Two matings are usually given to guard against the possibility of the female not having taken with the first.

CAT AILMENTS

It should be emphasised that a well-groomed, correctly fed cat is usually a healthy animal, as are, in point of fact, the majority. A sick cat gives up very easily, and careful and patient nursing is often required to bring it back to 100 per cent. fitness.

A few of the likely cat ailments are lightly touched upon in the following pages. There are, however, two diseases of which all cat owners should have some knowledge, in addition to the usual minor ailments.

Certain cat diseases are amenable to treatment and remedies are available so that the animal can be nursed back to health. There are other diseases where this does not hold, and feline infectious enteritis is one of these.

If a cat or kitten loses its appetite, has a high temperature and is sick, it should receive medical attention at once, although, if it is feline infectious enteritis, even then it may be too late. So rapid is the course of this illness, and the mortality rate is so high, that treatment is very often of no avail. This is emphasised when one considers that in some litters, particularly Siamese, up to 100 per cent. mortality may be experienced in spite of all treatment. It is evident that with a disease of this nature, preventive vaccination is the best course to adopt, as if the disease strikes, as it may do sooner or later, the results are often devastating.

There is now being manufactured a vaccine made from a harmless emulsion containing the causal virus killed by chemical means and retaining the

power to stimulate antibodies against the disease when injected into kittens. Two injections, with an interval between, result in better immunity than one injection. Whilst kittens can be effectively vaccinated any time after weaning, it is best to inoculate them soon after they leave their mothers. By early vaccination the risk of infection will be decreased. The immunity from a course of vaccination may be expected to cover the most susceptible period in the kitten's life, that is, the first fifteen months or so. After this age feline enteritis, if it does develop, is rarely fatal.

If a kitten is lost through feline infectious enteritis, the animal's bedding must be burnt and the house thoroughly disinfected. It is not advisable to have another kitten for at least six months.

The other illness referred to is cat 'flu, or feline distemper, as it is sometimes called. This is also an epidemic disease of cats and kittens. The general picture shows an infection of the respiratory tracts with coughs and sneezes and nasal and eye discharges. The cat soon loses weight, and becoming 'light' is a well-recognised symptom. The disease lasts for some weeks and the mortality rate may not be high, although convalescence is often prolonged. Fatal cases are usually the result of pneumonia and purulent pleurisy. It is probably caused by a virus, but the causal agent has not been clearly demonstrated and therefore no preventive vaccine is available as yet. In treatment expert veterinary attention is essential, together with good nursing, followed by building up again with a nourishing diet. Isolation of the first case should be immediate to prevent the spread of the disease. It will, however, be appreciated that in a litter of kittens it is nearly impossible to prevent them all getting infected.

Cat owners with a sick animal should never touch other cats or visit friends with young cats or kittens, or even write letters to them as infection can be carried by paper.

MINOR AILMENTS

ABSCESSES. An abscess may be caused by an injury, a blow, or a scratch or bite received in a fight with another cat, causing a wound which has started to heal too quickly with dirt or foreign matter inside. A swelling may develop which has a shiny appearance, is obviously painful when touched, and will eventually prove to be full of pus.

Expert veterinary advice is the best course in dealing with abscesses, as once an abscess has been diagnosed it may be possible to give an injection to disperse the swelling. If it is not practical to obtain medical advice, hot water fomentations or kaolin poultices may assist in bringing the abscess to a head, when it should be pricked with a sterilised needle. The wound should be kept open to ensure that all the pus is out. The fur will vanish from an area all around the wound but will very quickly grow again.

An abscess on the ear is a different matter, as when the pus has drained from the flap, it may crinkle up and spoil the appearance of the cat. Gentle massage daily with olive oil may help to prevent this.

BAD TEETH. Dribbling in cats is often caused by a deposit of yellow tartar on the teeth, which also causes inflammation of the gums. Very few people seem to appreciate the fact that cats do suffer with bad teeth, and a veterinary surgeon will remove these and also any yellow tartar.

BITES AND STINGS. A bite or scratch received from

another cat in a fight unfortunately very often turns into an abscess or a septic sore. Any such bites or scratches should be bathed as soon as noticed with a mild disinfectant and watched carefully in case an abscess does develop.

Cats may be stung—particularly around the mouth, as the fur protects other parts of the body—through pawing at bees or wasps. If by a bee the sting will be left in; this should be removed with a pair of tweezers and the place dabbed with a solution of bicarbonate of soda or a blue bag. If in the mouth it is advisable to contact a vet.

BLADDER TROUBLES. Males, neuters, and infrequently females, with little opportunity for plenty of exercise, may be seen to strain and seem to be unable to pass water. Sodium citrate tablets given according to the chemist's instructions, warmth and plenty to drink, may help to correct the trouble, but if the condition worsens prompt medical advice is essential, particularly in the event of any blood being passed, as urgent treatment may be required, in order to save the cat's life.

CANKER. There are various kinds of canker, chiefly caused by ear mites, but the symptoms are practically the same. The cat will start scratching the ear and shaking his head, and on examining the inside of the ear, a brownish matter will be seen. This may be gently removed with slightly dampened cotton wool wrapped around an orange stick, and one of the proprietary brands of canker powder or lotion applied. Treatment must be repeated daily until the ear is thoroughly clean. If the cat's ears receive a weekly inspection and a gentle wipe out with cotton wool, with a light dusting of boracic powder, there should be no occasion for the canker to occur again.

COLDS. A cat is very susceptible to draughts, and if allowed to get below par in health readily catches cold, showing ordinary cold symptoms of running eyes and sneezing. The cat should immediately be isolated, as it may be just a common cold or the start of a more serious illness. With warmth and careful nursing, the cold should be of short duration, but if it persists, medical attention is advised.

CONJUNCTIVITIS. If there is inflammation of the eyelids, with a discharge which persists, a veterinary surgeon should be consulted, as harm may be done to the eyes if this condition is allowed to continue. The newly-opened eyes of a young kitten may be sticky and inflamed. They should be gently bathed with boracic powder dissolved in warm water, and a little vaseline applied to the lids. No ointment containing mercury must be used, as I once found to my cost. The mother cat licked the ointment from the kitten's eyes and developed a badly ulcerated mouth.

CONSTIPATION. A kitten may suffer from this after going to a new home, probably owing to the change of diet or to the fact that the kitten may be a little nervous and off food for a day or so. It is always best to get a diet sheet or exact details of the feeding from the breeder and to stick to this for a while until the kitten has settled down. New items may be introduced gradually, just a little at a time. A teaspoonful of liquid paraffin or olive oil, which will probably be licked from the spoon without any trouble, should be given daily if the constipation is very bad. This with a varied diet should cure the condition, and there should be no further trouble. Older cats suffering from this should be given two teaspoonfuls and the food given a little moist rather than dry. Insufficient food may also cause

this, and if this is suspected the amount of food should be increased gradually. A sardine or a little raw liver will often help.

DIARRHOEA. Frequently when being weaned a kitten will have loose motions due to too much milk being given. A little kaolin powder given according to the chemist's instructions, together with cutting down of the amount of liquid given, should help to correct this condition. Adult cats may also suffer in this way if they are unable to take milk. In these cases water only should be given to drink. If the condition persists, professional advice should be sought.

ECZEMA. There are various forms of this complaint—all non-contagious; nevertheless, some may be very irritating to the cat. This condition can be inherited, appearing only in the spring and autumn, when doses of milk of magnesia will help by cooling the blood. The amount of greasy or fatty foods should be cut down, and there should always be plenty of clean water to drink. The veterinary surgeon will prescribe the correct lotion or ointment to help cure the places. Eczema may also be caused by some item of food in the diet, some cats being unable to drink milk or to take fish without spots appearing.

FLEAS. Any cat may pick up an occasional flea, particularly one living in the country where rabbits and hedgehogs run. Daily grooming will show flea dirt in the coat and a metal tooth comb should soon catch the flea. If there are a number of fleas, a flea powder advertised as 'suitable for cats' only should be used, as any others may upset the animal. The powder should be shaken and brushed well into the coat, left on only for a short period and then brushed

right out, as any kind of powder if licked down may upset some cats. Stand the animal on a large sheet of newspaper after applying the powder, brush and comb out, burning the paper quickly to destroy any fleas which drop on to it, or have ready a jar with a solution of disinfectant to put them in. There is no reason for a cat to have fleas, and apart from making him miserable through constant scratching, they can be the source of worms and also infections. If they do persist, the cat must be picking them up from their breeding ground, as fleas do not breed on animals. The sleeping box, blankets or wherever the cat sleeps should be examined and thoroughly disinfected.

FRACTURES. It is very rare for a cat to break a leg, but if it does happen as the result of an accident, an unlucky fall or a kick, the animal will appear to be in pain and there will be swelling, with the limb being held at an unusual angle. The animal should be restrained as much as possible from moving and a veterinary surgeon called in to put a splint on the broken limb.

HAIRBALL. If a long-haired cat does not receive constant grooming to remove the old fur from the coat, it may swallow a lot of the hair and a hairball may form in the stomach or bowels. Chewing grass, which is a natural emetic, may help the cat to bring up quite a lot of hair. A weekly dose of liquid paraffin will also help to pass the hair through the cat. If the stomach looks distended and it is suspected that the animal has a hairball, a veterinary surgeon should be consulted, as if the condition does not respond to enemas, an operation may be necessary.

POISONS. Cats should be kept away from insecticide sprays being used in the garden, and if weed

killers are put down should not be allowed to walk on the places until they are washed well into the ground. The animals will lick their paws and coat and any insecticide, if not definitely poisonous, may cause stomach upsets.

Disinfectants containing creosote, which is very poisonous to cats, should not be used around the house. The use of rat poisons is not recommended if the cat may catch and eat the rats. Many rat poisons are accumulative, and the eating of several rats will cause trouble.

Recently a number of cats have died after being given meat from the carcase of animals which have died through insecticides. If possible, give only meat fit for human consumption or meat from a reliable animal food vendor.

RINGWORM. There are several forms of ringworm, which is caused by a vegetable fungus growth. It is a highly contagious ailment, and can be transmitted from a cat to a human and also from a human to a cat. The animal can be completely cured and show no further signs, but occasionally a queen, supposedly cured of ringworm, produces kittens which develop signs of infection at a very early age. The fungus grows from the centre outwards, a ring-like patch making its appearance due to the hair roots being affected and the hair breaking off. Complete disinfection of the premises and patient treatment under medical orders is required, care being taken to prevent any of the spores being allowed to spread further infection.

At shows any possible suspect with this complaint is placed under an ultra-violet ray lamp, which shows up the growth under the light.

WORMS. Worms are found in most cats and if

allowed to become persistent may result in deterioration in the cat's health. There are two kinds of worms, tape worms, which may come away in segments and resemble grains of rice, and the round worms which look like pieces of thin string. It is not necessary to starve the cat before worming nowadays. There are many remedies on the market, but it is really best for the vet to prescribe, as the amount to be given depends on the age and weight of the cat or kitten, and much harm may be done through indiscriminate treatment. A cat should never be wormed out when under the weather. It is better to wait a while, feeding the cat up as much as possible, and perhaps giving a dose of liquid paraffin to help pass the worms through.

VARIOUS CONTINGENCIES

LAMENESS. If a cat is seen to be limping badly, the pads should be closely examined to see if a thorn or prickle is causing the trouble. This should be gently removed with tweezers. A small wound or cut will require bathing with a mild antiseptic.

LONG CLAWS. A cat that has to live indoors a great deal should be provided with a rough log and trained to sharpen its claws on that to prevent them from growing too long. The claws of a cat living a normal life should need little attention, but if they do grow too long, the veterinary surgeon should be allowed to cut them.

PAINT ON COATS. Not infrequently, and often through inquisitiveness, cats will get paint on their coats. This should not be treated with paraffin or turpentine, as they are poisonous to cats and will harm the animal's coat, causing the hair to fall out and the skin to become inflamed. It is better to cut

off as much of the affected fur as possible, and allow the paint marks to grow out.

TAR ON FEET. When road repairs are in progress, the cat's feet may become covered with tar. The cat must not be allowed to lick it off, as it is a poison. The best emergency treatment is to wipe off as much as possible, and cover the pads with butter, gently rubbing until little tar remains.

TRAVEL SICKNESS. A few cats are badly affected when travelling in a car or train, dribbling all the time, and may even be actually sick. It is advisable not to feed them before a journey, and if it is known that the cat is liable to be upset the vet. will probably prescribe some anti-sickness tablets.

THE CAT'S EYES

Cats have a third eyelid, called the nictitating membrane, commonly referred to as the haw.

If the haws are plainly visible, it may signify that the animal is out of condition or is sickening for illness. They usually go down again when the cat has regained its health, although occasionally after a severe illness they may remain slightly up permanently with no ill-effects to the cat.

CAT SHOWS

There are a number of cat shows held at different places all over Britain, where many pedigree cats, who are judged according to the standard of points issued by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, compete for cups and championships. I receive many enquiries regarding the dates and rendezvous of cat shows, saying that it is difficult to find out about them. Advertisements for shows can usually be found in *Fur and Feather*, or apply to the

Secretary, G.C.C.F. (page 152). It should be remembered that all pedigree entries must appear in the show catalogue, therefore entries must be in several weeks before the show; it is no use applying only a few days prior to the show to enter a cat. For tentative cat shows see list on page 153. The shows are organised by various cat clubs under the auspices of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, and are mostly held in the autumn and winter, when the long-haired cats are in coat. A number of exemption and sanction shows are sanctioned by the Governing Council. Sanction shows are run on the same lines as the Championship shows, but no challenge certificates are given. It is really a form of rehearsal by a club for future Championship shows. Exemption shows have a slightly different set of rules, and are put on by clubs before running a sanction show. At both these types of show well-known judges officiate, and novices take the opportunity of getting expert opinions on their cats. The Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club hold a show in London in July, where kittens of two months and over may be shown. Neuters are shown, but no adult cats participate apart from studs and brood queens, which are judged only by their progeny. Three or four other clubs hold their shows in London, the largest of these being the one organised by the National Cat Club which is held in December at Olympia. Apart from the many hundreds of pedigree cats on show, there has also been a special section for household pets.

It is not necessary to belong to a cat club to show a cat, but if one does so, there are special prizes to be competed for. By joining a club near at hand and by attending the meetings, members soon learn about the various shows and automatically receive

the club's show schedule. All cat shows are advertised in *Fur and Feather* and the show managers will send schedules and entry forms upon application being received. In the schedule will be found details of the classes, the judges and the various prizes to be won. The entry form should be completed and sent to the show manager, with the correct money, before the closing date, which is approximately two or three weeks before the show. Unless the cat is a household pet or a neuter, it must be registered with the Governing Council and must have belonged to the person exhibiting for at least three weeks prior to the show. Neuters may be registered with the Council and compete for Premierships.

To become a Champion, a cat must be first in an open class of its own breed and be awarded a challenge certificate for each win at three different shows under three different judges.

Apart from the Open classes, there are many other classes a cat may be entered in. These are known as side classes, and include such classes as Breeders, Novices, Junior, Senior and many others. Club classes are those guaranteed by the various clubs and only their fully-paid-up members may enter cats in these. There are separate classes for kittens. After nine months, they compete in cat classes.

About a week before the show, a numbered tally and vetting-in card will arrive to enable the cat to be accepted at the hall. Cats must be taken to the show in adequate escape-proof baskets or boxes. They may not be sent by rail direct to the show, and must be accompanied to the hall by the owner or owner's representative. All cats have to be examined by a veterinary surgeon before penning is allowed, and if there is the slightest doubt as to the state of health, they will not be allowed in the

show. After the cat has been passed by the veterinary surgeon, a pen will be found in the hall bearing the same number as that on the cat's tally. Before placing the cat in it, although the pens are disinfected by the benching firms, it is as well to wipe the bars and backing lightly all over with a little methylated spirit, or some mild disinfectant. The pen will be on tabling covered with white paper, and the plain white blanket should be placed on this, together with the sanitary tin. Peat moss to go in this will be found in the hall. Nothing else is allowed in the pen prior to the judging; in fact, anything else may lead to disqualification. After giving the cat a final grooming, but on no account powdering in the hall, make sure the numbered tally on its plain white tape or ribbon is safely around the cat's neck. Place the cat in the pen and leave it. The cat must not be approached while it is being judged.

As the various classes are judged, the award slips are placed on a board to enable the exhibitors to learn the results. Some time after lunch, the award cards go up on the pens and the cat is allowed to be fed. Most shows close about 6 p.m. and exhibitors who live over 100 miles away are usually given permission to leave a little earlier, provided this permission has been applied for with the entry form.

On reaching home, the cat's coat should be wiped over lightly with a mild disinfectant, and the eyes, mouth, ears and paws wiped with a much diluted solution. Half a teaspoonful of whiskey or brandy in a little milk or water may be given. Even if the cat has been injected against feline enteritis (and no cat should be shown without having had this done), there are other ailments a cat may pick up at a show and a thorough disinfecting will help to counteract any infection. The cat should be given a meal and the bed should be placed

in a spot well away from draughts, as the show halls by the end of the day are usually rather warm, and cats are susceptible to colds. The cat should be isolated from other cats and kittens for the next few days, to ensure that, in spite of all the precautions taken, any infection picked up will not be conveyed to the others.

SHOWING NEUTERS

A neutered male or spayed female of any breed of pedigree cat may be registered as a neuter and compete at cat shows for the many cups and trophies given for the best neuters. Premiership certificates are given instead of Championship certificates. If the first prize winner of an Open class of neuters is up to the required standard, a premier certificate is given. To become a full Premier, a neuter must win three premier certificates at three different shows under three different judges.

Neuters of unknown ancestry may be registered provided certain regulations are complied with, and they may then compete for premier certificates.

Non-registered neutered pets may compete at cat shows in special Non-Premier Neuter Classes or in Household Pet classes.

As with the showing of all pedigree cats, condition and show preparation count a great deal towards prize-winning and many weeks of constant grooming will be needed before a show.

STEWARDSHIP AND JUDGING

There is no easy road to becoming a cat judge. It is only after years of stewardship and acquiring a thorough knowledge of all varieties of cats that one may be chosen by one of the Breed clubs to become a probationer judge of that particular breed.

If one is interested in stewarding and judging, it is advisable to breed cats and to join one or more of the various cat clubs throughout the country, to attend the meetings and to ask to be allowed to steward at the club's show. A steward's duties include arriving in good time on the morning of the show, armed with india rubber and pencil, and finding the judge's small table, which then has to be taken to the pen of each cat to be judged. A bowl of water containing disinfectant and a towel will be required for the judge to wash his hands after the judging of each animal, to prevent the spread of infection to the next exhibit. The steward should check on any absentees, and confirm that the number on the tally round the cat's neck is the same as that on the pen. He must not be nervous of handling all types of cats and must be content to watch the judging carefully without expressing an opinion. Before the award slip is taken to the table where the awards are entered, it must be checked that the awards are filled in correctly and that the slip has been signed by the judge.

If one acquires a reputation for good stewarding and also appears to be able to assess a cat's probabilities according to the standard of points, it is possible that one may be considered as a probationer judge, and may judge non-champion and miscellaneous classes at shows. It is only after some years of such judging and having one's capabilities observed, and judging the open kitten classes of the particular breed, that one is allowed to become a judge of that breed.

In some countries, would-be judges have to take examinations and to give a practical demonstration of judging different breeds under well-known judges. In this way it is possible to become an all-round judge—that is, a judge who can judge

all breeds of both long-haired and short-haired cats—by taking the various examinations for the different breeds. In Britain it is very difficult to become an all-round judge, as some clubs are now stipulating that judges must have bred the particular breeds for a number of years.

The opinion of British judges is much valued in other countries and they are frequently invited to officiate at the large cat shows in Europe, the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

To be a good judge, one must have an 'eye' for a cat, have the courage of one's convictions, and be able to give tactful opinions to enquiring owners regarding their cats.

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

The Council is a democratic body of the delegates from the affiliated Cat Clubs and Societies (a list of which follows on page 153). These delegates are elected by the Club members annually. Its objects are to provide for the registration of cats and cat pedigrees, to classify cat breeds, to approve the dates of cat shows, to improve cat breeding and to protect the welfare of cats and the interests of cat owners generally.

As well as keeping a register of, and issuing certificates for pedigree cats, it deals with the transfer of the animals from one owner to another. The Council also grants Challenge Certificates, in accordance with its rules, to winning cats complying with certain regulations, at the Championship Shows held under its auspices. It agrees the standards and the scale of points for the various breeds.

A list is issued giving the names of owners of male cats who are prepared to accept females at stud. A stud book is also issued every few years giving details of the breeding, achievements at shows, etc., of all prize-winning cats. This is most useful for anyone wishing to breed from particular varieties and strains.

Secretary: Mrs. W. Davis,
Dovefields,
Petworth Road,
Witley,
Surrey.

Registrar for long-haired cats and all other varieties excluding Siamese:

Mrs. E. Aitken,
Bourneside,
Kingswood Lane, Hindhead, Surrey.

Registrar for Siamese only:

Miss V. Prentis,
4 Farman Street,
Hove 2,
Sussex.

The Registrars deal with the registration of cats and kittens, and transfers. The Secretary deals with all other matters.

For the address of the Secretary of any particular club please write, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (see above), or to me, c/o the Publishers.

CAT CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Abyssinian Cat Club	National Cat Club
Black and White Cat Club	Northern Counties Cat Club
Blue Persian Cat Society	Northern Siamese Cat Society
Blue-pointed Siamese Cat Club	Notts and Derbys Cat Club
Burmese Cat Club	Preston Cat Club
Cheshire Area Cat Club	Red, Cream, Tortoiseshell, Tortoiseshell-and-White, Blue Cream and Brown Tabby Society
Chestnut Brown Group	Scottish Cat Club
Chinchilla, Silver and Smoke Society	Short-hair Cat Society
Chocolate-pointed Siamese Cat Club	Siamese Cat Club
Colourpoint and the A.O.V. Cat Club	Siamese Cat Society of The British Empire
Coventry and Leicester Cat Club	Siamese Cat Association
Croydon Cat Club	Southern Counties Cat Club
Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club	Southsea Cat Club
Herts and Middlesex Cat Club	South Western Counties Cat Club
Hull and Lincolnshire Cat Club	Suffolk and Norfolk Cat Club
Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club	Surrey and Sussex Cat Association
Kentish Cat Society	Three Counties Cat Soc.
Lancashire and N. W. Counties Cat Club	Ulster Siamese Cat Club
Lilac-point Siamese Cat Society	Wessex Cat Club
Long-hair Cream and Blue Cream Assoc.	West of England and South Wales Cat Soc.
Midland Counties Cat Club	Yorkshire County Cat Club

ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETIES

The Cats Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks., is a Society whose activities throughout the British Isles are devoted entirely to the welfare of cats and kittens. The chief object of the League is the spaying and neutering of all cats and kittens not registered as breeding stock, thus, in part, preventing the over-production of unwanted kittens. The services of qualified veterinary surgeons only are used and there is a voucher scheme in operation whereby spaying, neutering and any required treatment can be given at a cost the owner can afford, the League paying the balance. Endeavours are made to find good homes for unwanted cats and kittens. Pamphlets are issued on the care of the cat. There are many branches throughout Britain.

The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, P.D.S.A. House, 15 Clifford Street, London, W.1, was founded in 1917 for the free treatment of the sick and injured animals of the poor. Much of the work undertaken is in connection with cats. At the many dispensaries both in Britain and abroad, male kittens between three and six months old may be taken to be neutered without charge, but voluntary contributions may be given. There are also mobile caravans which travel into the small towns and villages to give animal treatment and expert advice. In Britain the organisation runs five animal hospitals the largest of which is at Ilford, where visitors are welcomed by appointment. Emergency ambulance services are functioning in many large cities for use in emergencies and road accidents.

Among its numerous functions connected with animals, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 105 Jermyn Street, London,

S.W.1, (with branches all over Britain), deals with cases of cruelty to cats which unfortunately seem to be on the increase. Uniformed inspectors are always on duty all over the country to assist in any way with the welfare of animals. At its clinics in a number of towns cats belonging to the poor receive free veterinary treatment. Efforts are made to find homes for the very many stray cats, and if this cannot be done, they are painlessly destroyed. The Society issues leaflets dealing with the welfare of cats, and runs its own boarding kennels. It works in close association with many other animal societies throughout the world.

The Blue Cross Society, (Our Dumb Friends League), Grosvenor Gardens House, Victoria, London, S.W.1, provides, in the London area particularly, fine first-class clinics where cats whose owners are unable to pay private veterinary surgeons' fees are treated. It also runs four small-animal ambulances for the collection of stray cats. All the Society's branches try to find homes wherever possible for unwanted cats. Cat baskets are hired out on payment of a deposit, which is returnable, and a small fee. Cat collars, made of elastic, can be obtained from the Society for a very small charge. A new up-to-date mobile clinic is now working in the streets of London, and a very large modern animal welfare hospital in Victoria has everything necessary for the treatment of animals. The Society runs boarding kennels of its own.

BREEDING TABLE

This table is only a rough guide as individual cats vary in length of gestation. Date in first column when mated; date in second column when kittens are due.

Jan.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.	Mar.	May	Apr.	June	May	July	June	Aug.
1 due	7	1 due	7	3 due	7	2 due	6	2 due	6	1 due	5
2	8	2	8	4	8	3	7	3	7	2	6
3	9	3	9	5	9	4	8	4	8	3	7
4	10	4	10	6	10	5	9	5	9	4	8
5	11	5	11	7	11	6	10	6	10	5	9
6	12	6	12	8	12	7	11	7	11	6	10
7	13	7	13	9	13	8	12	8	12	7	11
8	14	8	14	10	14	9	13	9	13	8	12
9	15	9	15	11	15	10	14	10	14	9	13
10	16	10	16	12	16	11	15	11	15	10	14
11	17	11	17	13	17	12	16	12	16	11	15
12	18	12	18	14	18	13	17	13	17	12	16
13	19	13	19	15	19	14	18	14	18	13	17
14	20	14	20	16	20	15	19	15	19	14	18
15	21	15	21	17	21	16	20	16	20	15	19
16	22	16	22	18	22	17	21	17	21	16	20
17	23	17	23	19	23	18	22	18	22	17	21
18	24	18	24	20	24	19	23	19	23	18	22
19	25	19	25	21	25	20	24	20	24	19	23
20	26	20	26	22	26	21	25	21	25	20	24
21	27	21	27	23	27	22	26	22	26	21	25
22	28	22	28	24	28	23	27	23	27	22	26
23	29	23	29	25	29	24	28	24	28	23	27
24	30	24	30	26	30	25	29	25	29	24	28
25	31	May	27	31	26	30	26	30	25	29	29
	Apr. 25		1	June	July	27	31	26	30	25	29
26	1	26	2	28	1	27	1	Aug.	27	31	30
27	2	27	3	29	2	28	2	28	1	Sep.	
28	3	28	4	30	3	29	3	29	2	28	1
29	4	Mar.	31	4	30	4	30	3	29	2	
30	5	1	5	Apr.	May	31	4	30	3		
31	6	2	6	1	5	1	5				

July	Sep.	Aug.	Oct.	Sep.	Nov.	Oct.	Dec.	Nov.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.
1 due	4	1 due	5	1 due	5	1 due	5	1 due	5	1 due	4
2	5	2	6	2	6	2	6	2	6	2	5
3	6	3	7	3	7	3	7	3	7	3	6
4	7	4	8	4	8	4	8	4	8	4	7
5	8	5	9	5	9	5	9	5	9	5	8
6	9	6	10	6	10	6	10	6	10	6	9
7	10	7	11	7	11	7	11	7	11	7	10
8	11	8	12	8	12	8	12	8	12	8	11
9	12	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	12
10	13	10	14	10	14	10	14	10	14	10	13
11	14	11	15	11	15	11	15	11	15	11	14
12	15	12	16	12	16	12	16	12	16	12	15
13	16	13	17	13	17	13	17	13	17	13	16
14	17	14	18	14	18	14	18	14	18	14	17
15	18	15	19	15	19	15	19	15	19	15	18
16	19	16	20	16	20	16	20	16	20	16	19
17	20	17	21	17	21	17	21	17	21	17	20
18	21	18	22	18	22	18	22	18	22	18	21
19	22	19	23	19	23	19	23	19	23	19	22
20	23	20	24	20	24	20	24	20	24	20	23
21	24	21	25	21	25	21	25	21	25	21	24
22	25	22	26	22	26	22	26	22	26	22	25
23	26	23	27	23	27	23	27	23	27	23	26
24	27	24	28	24	28	24	28	24	28	24	27
25	28	25	29	25	29	25	29	25	29	25	28
26	29	26	30	26	30	26	30	26	30	26	29
27	30	27	31	Dec.	27	31	27	31	26	27	30
	Oct.	Nov.	27	1	Jan.	Feb.	27	1	2		
28	1	28	1	28	2	28	1	28	1	28	27
29	2	29	2	29	3	29	2	29	2	29	28
30	3	30	3	30	4	30	3	30	3	30	29
31	4	31	4		31	4		31	4		30

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